THE NEW
SUNDAY EXPRESS

BENGALURU • SUNDAY • DECEMBER 12, 2021 • ₹12.00 • PAGES 26 • LATE CITY EDITION

Scientists prepare samples for genomic sequencing in South Africa | AP

JAB-O-METER

TAKE YOUR SHOT

Dec 10: **68,63,955 doses**

Dec 11: **81,08,719 doses**

TOTAL: 132,84,04,705

NATIONWIDE	DEC 10	DEC 11
Fresh cases	8,503	7,992
Recoveries	7,678	9,265
Deaths	624	393

KARNATAKA	DEC 10	DEC 11
Fresh cases	314	320
Recoveries	339	317
Deaths	2	2

OMICRON IS MILDER THAN DELTA, S AFRICA DATA SHOWS

Two weeks after the first case, statistics from South African hospitals show the new strain causes milder Covid than Delta

MOST PATIENTS DIDN'T NEED HOSPITAL VISITS

Only about 30% of those hospitalised with Covid in recent weeks have been seriously ill, less than half the rate reported during the first weeks of the country's previous pandemic waves. And Covid patients spent only 2.8 days in the hospital on average, down from eight days. Doctors said even older or vulnerable patients are able to recover at their home in 10-14 days

OMICRON SEVERITY AND VACCINE STATUS

- More than 85% of patients hospitalised in the country's current wave weren't vaccinated, and two-thirds of them were under 40
- The data on Covid fatalities from South Africa, where Omicron is the dominant strain, is also encouraging: Just 3% of hospitalised patients died, compared with 20% from earlier outbreaks

33

INDIA'S OMICRON TALLY ON SATURDAY, AFTER A NEW CASE DETECTED IN DELHI

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

EXPRESS READ

Will fully vacate Delhi border by Dec 15: Tikait

Ghaziabad: BKU leader Rakesh Tikait said farmers will fully vacate their protest site on the Delhi border here by December 15 as their first group left for Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh on Saturday.

ED probing assets of PFI in Abu Dhabi

New Delhi: The ED is investigating the "acquisition" of some foreign assets, including a bar-cum-restaurant in Abu Dhabi, by Popular Front of India leaders after recent raids against its members in Kerala.

IAF testfires indigenous anti-tank missile

Bhubaneswar: DRDO and Indian Air Force flight tested helicopter-launched Stand-off Anti-Tank missile from Pokhran on Saturday. The indigenously developed air-to-surface missile was test fired against a static target.

THE FINAL SALUTE

Officers from the IAF and paramilitary forces pay their last respects to Lance Naik Boggala Sai Teja in Bengaluru on Saturday. He lost his life in the helicopter crash in Coonoor on December 8, along with CDS Gen Bipin Rawat | SHRIRAM BN | REPORT: P7

Govt goes slow on legislative biz after farm bills volte-face

MANISH ANAND @New Delhi

HAVING burnt its fingers with hurried legislation on farm laws, the government appears to be going slow on fresh bills, with just nine days left in the Winter session of Parliament.

During the commencement of the session, the government had unveiled plans to seek Parliamentary nod for a total of 29 bills, including three previously introduced in the lower House.

The much-talked about cryptocurrency bill isn't on the legislative agenda this week, and the Lok Sabha bulletin shows only five bills to be taken up.

These are the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Bill, the Mediation Bill, the National Anti-Doping Bill, and the Chartered Accountants, the Cost and Works Accounts and the Company Secretaries (Amendment) Bill.

The Lok Sabha has so far passed six legislative proposals out of 29 after the passage of the Farm Repeal Bill gave a stormy start to the Winter session. The ruckus in Rajya Sabha continues with Opposition MPs pressing for revocation of the suspension of 13 MPs and the government adamant on an apology from them.

The current session, set to end on December 23, shows no sign of legislative hurriedness seen in previous sessions.

The absence of Opposition MPs in Parliament could also be one of the reasons why the government is not keen in pushing its legislative agenda.

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WITH THIS ISSUE

THE BODY SHOP

The pandemic-driven digital revolution led to the launch of several AI-enabled fitness products, including in the virtual medium. The Omicron threat just upped the ante

PLUS 12 PAGES MAGAZINE

PRIZE CATCH

Maradona watch turns up in Assam

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @Guwahati

ALLEGEDLY stolen in Dubai, the late Diego Maradona's heritage Hublot watch has been found in Assam's Sivasagar after an international effort by police, authorities said.

A 37-year-old man has been arrested over the robbery.

Sivasagar's Superintendent of Police Rakesh Roushan told this newspaper that the watch — specially-made with the football legend's jersey No. 10 and signature inscribed on it — costs ₹13 lakh - ₹14 lakh.

"The Dubai Police had shared information with an Indian federal law enforcement agency that one Wazid Hussein, son of Kalyan Hussein and resident of Sivasagar in Assam, had stolen some belongings of Maradona from his Dubai residence," Roushan said.

Police said Hussein had worked as domestic help at the Dubai home of Maradona, who died in November last year.

Hussein, however, denied stealing the watch or even working for Maradona. He told the police the expensive item was a gift from a Nigerian friend.

Govt to appoint 15,000 school teachers soon

ENS@ Bengaluru

THE state government is recruiting 15,000 primary school teachers soon to overcome a severe shortage at government schools across the state, said Primary and Secondary Education Minister BC Nagesh on Saturday.

Taking to social media, he said 10,000 teachers will be recruited for classes 6 to 8, while another 5,000 educators will be hired especially for the Kalyana-Karnataka region. He said a notification on the appointment process will be released next week.

The government had appointed 23,000 guest teachers. The new recruitments are in addition to the appointment of 4,000 guest teachers that was announced recently.

The state has been struggling to cope with the sudden rush of students from private schools to government-run ones after the onset of Covid.

TORNADO

OUTBREAK LASHES U.S.

Seventy feared dead after as many as 30 tornadoes strike several US states | P11

ITC
Enduring Value
Savlon
Swasth India
WEAR A MASK.
PROTECT YOURSELF,
PROTECT YOUR KID'S CHILDHOOD.
Wearing a mask outdoors is more than just a good hygienic habit.
It is a way to protect ourselves and our children from diseases like Covid.
If we wear masks, and encourage our kids to do the same, we reduce the chances of spreading germs.
And by doing so we bring our kids closer to once again enjoying a happy and healthy childhood. After all, with good hygiene comes good health.
WEAR YOUR MASK
CORRECTLY OVER YOUR NOSE & MOUTH
CONTINUOUSLY WHEN OUTDOORS

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Contact your LIC Agent for any assistance.
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CDSL:
https://sebi.gov.in/sebiweb/other/OtherAction.do?doRecognisedFpi=yes&intmId=18
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Address proof
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Contact your banker or broker for any assistance.
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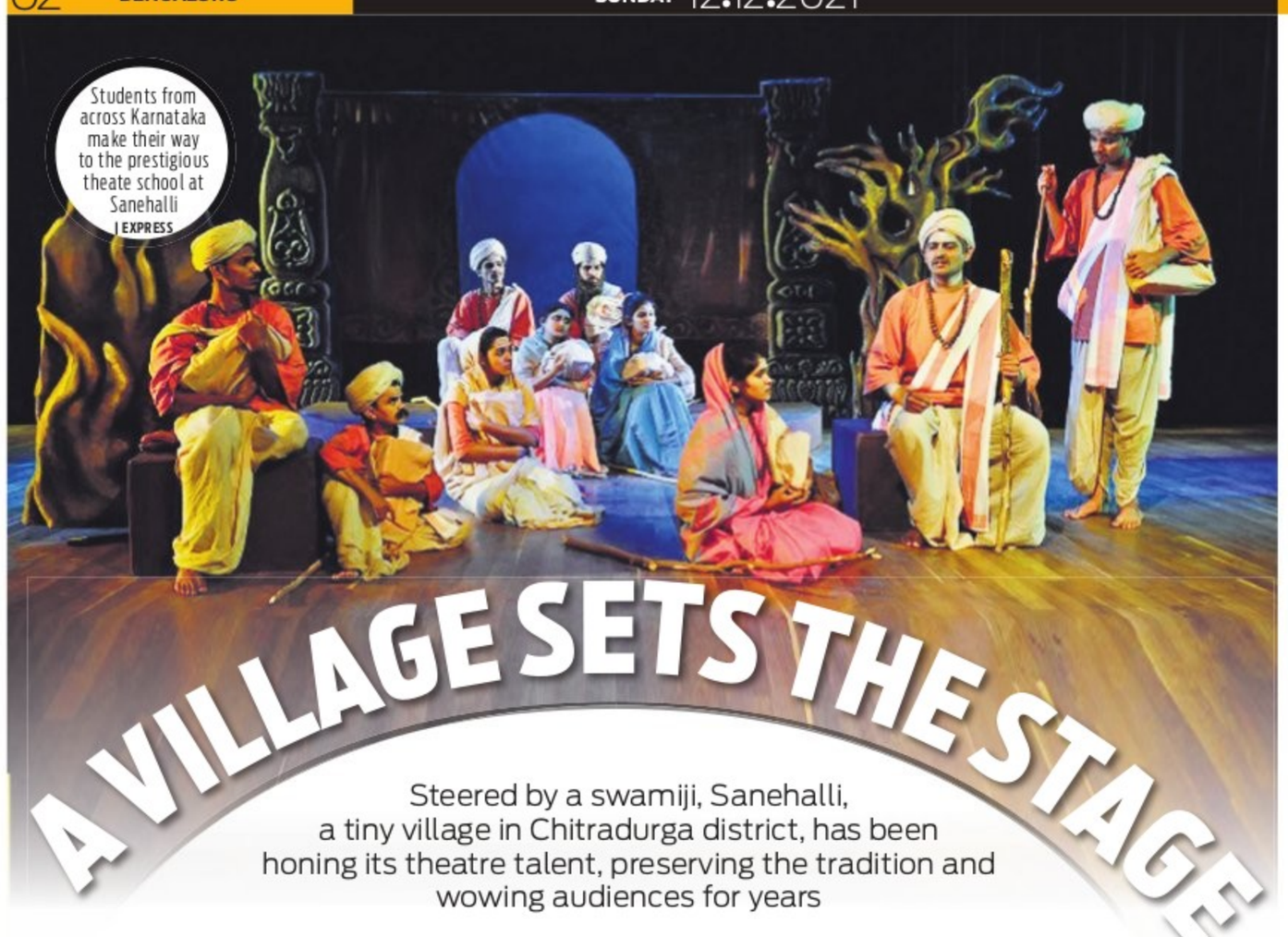
THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS | BRIGHTSIDE

ALMANAC TODAY
• Sunday : 12/12/2021 • Year: Plava • Ayana: Dakshinayna
• Ritu: Himantha • Masa: Margashira • Paksha: Shukla • Tithi: Navami 11.42 pm
• Nakshatra: Utharabhadra 3.54 am • Moon in Mesha Rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00pm
• Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pmm

WEATHER
MIN 17°C | MAX 25°C
FORECAST
Increasing cloudiness

Sunrise 6.32 am
Sunset 5.54 pm
Moonrise 12.23 pm
Moonset 12.54 pm

02 BENGALURU | SUNDAY 12.12.2021 | newindianexpress.com



Students from across Karnataka make their way to the prestigious theate school at Sanehalli
| EXPRESS

A VILLAGE SETS THE STAGE

Steered by a swamiji, Sanehalli, a tiny village in Chitradurga district, has been honing its theatre talent, preserving the tradition and wowing audiences for years

G SUBASH CHANDRA @ Chitradurga

KARNATAKA has been an audience to a rich tapestry of performing arts and theatre, nurtured by maestros and virtuosos. This vibrant cultural thread, however, is gradually losing its place in the current, tech-driven entertainment options. Taking up the noble task of ensuring that it is not curtains down on this hallowed tradition, a religious institution from Chitradurga district has been running a theatre school and repertory, entertaining the state's discerning citizens.

The Lingayat religious institution, Sanehalli Mutt – headed by Panditharadhya Shivacharya Swamiji – is the centre of cultural activities at Sanehalli village in Hosadurga taluk. It began with Shivakumara Kala Sangha 33 years ago, where the Swamiji experimented with theatre, earning Sanehalli the title, 'Ranga Kashi'. Other performing arts like Yakshagana, Bayalata, and Togalu Gombe Kunitha too are performed here.

Influenced by KV Subbanna's NINASAM (Nilakanteshwara Natya Seva Sangha), Panditharadhya launched Shiva Sanchara by gaining insights from gifted stage directors like CG Krishna Swamy and Ashok Badardinni. The institute has hosted many plays, which include Shoka Chakra, Urilingapeddi, Mahabelaku, Soole Sankavve, Nammellara Buddha and Amrapali. All the characters in these plays are portrayed by the students of Shivakumara Ranga Prayoga Shale.

The pontiff is a playwright himself and his most famous work 'Santyage Ninthane Kabeera' has captivated audiences. Besides, other plays like Maranave Mahanavami, penned by late pontiff of Siddaganga Mutt Dr Shivakumara Swamiji, and others by Chandrashekara Kambara are also presented here. The school accommodates 20 students, selected from humble families across Karnataka.

Principal Jagadish R says, "Our thrust is on acting and students from all over the state love to join our school. While only two staffers manage the school, until now, thousands of students have passed out."

He says, "Once a programme is fixed, three unique dramas are selected, rehearsed and performed by the students for Shiva Sanchara. Every year, the movement begins with the inauguration of the national drama festival, held in the first week of November. Then, they present close to 150 shows all over the state and the country. Till now, 72 different themes have been performed and over 3,000 shows presented."

Basava and Sharana philosophy

The plays usually have a touch of Sharana philosophy and the teachings of reformer Basaveshwara. In 2007, the Swamiji's plays Jangamadedege, Taledanda and Sankranthi were translated into Hindi and performed under the banner, 'Bharat Ranga Sanchar'. More than 45 shows across 21 cities were held and a similar event was organised in 2013.

The Swami took the help of well-known stage director late CG Krishna Swamy, who hailed from Challakere taluk of the district, to guide him in developing the school. Under CGK's guidance, the construction of the only Greek-style amphitheatre in these parts was realised. Christened 'Sri Shivakumara Open Air Theatre', it can accommodate over 5,000 spectators. It plays host to the school's annual theatre festival, when people from the vicinity catch works of Shakespeare, Chekhov and Kalidasa. CGK has been laid to rest in this theatre as a mark of respect.

Davanagere MLA Dr Shamanur Shivashankarappa has also presented a state-of-the-art indoor rangamandira at a cost of ₹4 crore. The Shivakumara Award for eminent theatre personalities, comprising a cash prize of ₹50,000 and a plaque, has been instituted. So far, CGK, C Basavalingaiah, and B Jayashree among others have been conferred with the award.

Challenge of the times

The Sanehalli school has persevered hard to keep up with the times. "With the rise of National School of Drama, NINASAM and others, the dimension of theatre has changed. Organising a play is a costly affair. Professional and amateur theatre need resurrection," Panditharadhya says.

The Shivakumara Kala Sangha too has improved its technology. Today, its plays are showcased online via social media and on www.shivasanchara.org.

Theatre is an integral part of Sanehalli's vibe. Unlike most people around the world, residents of this unique 'theatre village' in central Karnataka wake up every morning to the sound of applause.

HOW TO GET THERE:
Sanehalli, a tiny village with 350 houses, lies in Hosadurga taluk of Chitradurga district. It is about five hours by road from Bengaluru. There are local buses from Chitradurga to Sanehalli.

SHIVAKUMARA RANGA PRAYOGA SHALE

STARTED
2008

FOUNDER:
Panditharadhya Shivacharya Swamiji (top)

DURATION OF THE COURSE:
Ten months. Examination conducted by KSEEB. Diploma in Theatre Arts will be awarded

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION FOR ADMISSION:
SSLC (10th Std)

MAXIMUM INTAKE:
20 candidates. All will be included in the Shiva Sanchara theatre repertory

YOURS, MUSICALLY

Octogenarian twins Ronald and Donald D'Silva from Udupi repair and restore musical instruments out of their pure love for music

DIVYA CUTINHO @ Mangaluru

FROM a 70-year-old violin to a timeless guitar, the D'Silva twins have been repairing and restoring musical instruments for over half-a-century.

Octogenarian brothers Ronald and Donald D'Silva from the coastal village of Salumara Kodavoor near Malpe in Udupi district have been giving a new lease of life to musical instruments that are in dire need of repair.

The 82-year-old D'Silvas -- once part of the renowned century-old music band 'The Blue Ribbons' — restore and craft all types of musical instruments, from guitars and saxophones to trumpets and cornets.

Born into a family of 12 children, Ronald and Donald belong to an illustrious family of musicians. Their ancestors set up the popular 'The Blue Ribbons' band over 120 years ago during the Basel Mission in coastal Karnataka. The D'Silva brothers are not just musicians, but also mechanics and this adds to their skill in repairing instruments apart from their music knowledge. Ronald and Donald started their career in a 150-year-old tile factory started by the Basel Mission in Malpe as a mechanic and head mechanic, respectively.

"My father's elder brother James D'Silva had worked as a band master with the Blue Ribbons during the Basel Mission. A band master from Goa taught music to our ancestors and other enthusiasts in the district. Though the band stopped performing after the death of our uncle, we continued to take music classes. We also service and sell musical instruments," Ronald says.

He has customers from not just the country, but also Singapore, Africa and other places. Many of their rare musical instruments are displayed at Manjusha Museum, a one-of-its kind museum in the temple town of Dharmasthala that houses vintage cars, temple chariots and rare artefacts, including musical instruments.

The D'Silva brothers have also restored musical instruments of the Mangaluru Police Department and of various educational institutions in the region. Jonam Obol, a guitarist from Mangaluru, says the duo is a great help to local musicians. "If we give our instruments to the company for service or repair, it takes months to get the work done. But they repair the instruments quickly and also at a much lower price," he says.

Donald and Ronald have so far restored over 4,000 string, brass, percussion and woodwind instruments purely out of their love for music. "These days, many music companies quote a high price for repair even if there is only a minor problem with the instrument," says Donald.

"As musicians, we should help other musicians. Our intention is to pass on the contribution of The Blue Ribbons to the next generation," say the brothers say with utmost joie de vivre.

In Perfect Pitch

Ronald and Donald D'Silva are 82 years old

They have been restoring and crafting string and brass instruments for the last 50 years

Their ancestors were part of the popular The Blue Ribbons band started during Basel Mission in coastal Karnataka

So far, the brothers have restored over 4,000 instruments

The duo has come as a great saviour for all the local musicians in repairing musical instruments. If we give our instruments to the company, it takes a lot of time to get the work done. The D'Silvas repair them in no time and also they charge less
— Jonam Obol, guitarist from Mangaluru

I had repaired an electrical guitar made in Italy which had keys just like a piano. It was a rare instrument. Another unique instrument I've repaired is a violin worth Rs 90,000 manufactured over 70 years ago. It was completely broken when its owner approached me to repair it
--- Ronald D'Silva

As musicians, we should help other musicians. Our intention is to pass on the contribution of The Blue Ribbons band to the next generation
--- Ronald and Donald D'Silva

(Left) Ronald D'Silva and Donald D'Silva in action
| EXPRESS

Teacher vacancy confusion to be sorted out soon

PEARL MARIA D'SOUZA
@ Bengaluru

THE Education Department is looking at clearing confusion around teaching vacancies in schools. The Finance Department had given approvals to appoint guest teachers to fill vacancies. However, during teacher transfers, those vacancies meant for the guest teachers are being given to permanent teachers, with the positions which the latter previously occupied lying vacant now.

To make peace with the changing landscape of teaching vacancies, the department has asked for the sanctioned posts of guest faculty to be adjusted between taluks, but within a certain district.

The Directors of Primary and Secondary Education, in an official communication, have given the powers to the Deputy Directors to fill the posts of guest teachers, where there are greater vacancies in schools. They said that the Finance Department sanctioned 23,079 vacancies to be filled, and thereafter, the vacancies were notified. However, the existing teachers who took a transfer, filled some of the vacant posts, thus leaving their previous posts vacant, they added. Hence, within a district, they permitted allotment to any taluk, where there are more vacancies.

Minister for Primary and Secondary Education, BC Nagesh, told TNIE that the 23,079 guest faculty posts are a short-term solution and these teachers are without Karnataka Teacher Eligibility Test qualification.

1,389 postgraduate seats still remain vacant in B'luru Central University

PEARL MARIA D'SOUZA
@ Bengaluru

AS many as 1,389 seats are lying vacant at Bengaluru City University (BCU) and its affiliated colleges. There is no clarity as to why the seats are still vacant and the applications so few this year, a top official from the university said.

The maximum number of vacancies are in MCom with 280 seats vacant till December 9. This is followed by 113 seats in MA Economics, 108 seats in MA English and 80 seats in MSc Psychology.

The university will now hold the second round of counselling in the postgraduate departments on December 13. Candidates who had applied and were unsuccessful in securing admission during the first round of counselling are allowed to attend the second round.

Bengaluru City University Registrar Sridhar said the final list of vacancies will be announced on Monday, and for commerce, which is the most sought-after subject, there are already 200 applicants.

"That leaves us with only 80 vacancies which will be filled in the subsequent counselling round. However, it is still not certain why the admissions are not taking place and the applications are fewer," he added.

Classes will be held in physical mode this year, he clarified, adding that the first semester is yet to start for postgraduate students and it is likely in the next 10 days.

Master of Tourism and Travel Management has 125 vacant seats, Master of Fine Arts 84 vacancies, Master in International Business 95 seats, MA in Mass Communication and Journalism 38 vacancies, MA in History 59 seats and MSc in chemistry 39 seats. MA in social work is in demand, with only 3 seats vacant. MA in French does not have any vacancies, while MSc in nutrition and Dietetics has three seats vacant. In MSc microbiology, one seat is vacant and in MSc biotechnology four seats.

For commerce, there are already 200 applicants.That leaves us with only 80 vacancies which will be filled in the subsequent counselling round. However, it is still not certain why the admissions are not taking place and the applications are fewer
Sridhar, BCU Registrar

Ensure pothole-free roads, Palike chief tells officials

ENS @ Bengaluru

BRUHAT Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner Gaurav Gupta on Saturday ordered the zonal and joint commissioners and all engineers to immediately start road repair works along all arterial and sub-arterial roads. After holding a virtual meeting with zonal officials, Gupta directed them to immediately take up the repair works and complete it at the earliest. Gupta said the officials should ensure that all the roads are free of potholes and the roads in all the 100 villages are restored immediately.

He directed the zonal officials to prepare and submit a list of roads which need immediate attention and the ongoing works and those completed, to the BBMP head office, immediately.

Gupta also told the engineers and zonal heads to check roads in every zone which need to be repaired and are poorly lit.

The Chief Commissioner directed the officials to ensure that all street lights are in working condition and the roads are well lit with LED lights.

Due to unprecedented and unseasonal rain, multiple deadlines to rid the city of potholes which were set by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and BBMP Chief Commissioner were not met by the civic body engineers. The work had come to a near standstill in most parts of the city due to the rain. But as the rains have started to recede, directives to resume road repair works have been issued. However, no new deadlines have been set, said a senior BBMP official.

Mangaluru International Airport (MIA) has commenced a pre-booking facility for passengers who need to undergo RT-PCR test. RT-PCR and rapid RT-PCR testing facility has been arranged at the pre-immigration arrival hall. Similar testing facility is also available in the departure area.

TRACKING COVID-19

DURATION OF PANDEMIC
1 YEAR, 277 DAYS

CASES REPORTED
Today: **320** | Yesterday: **314**

TALLY
Today: **30,00,105**
Yesterday: **29,99,785**

DEATHS	DISCHARGES
Today: **2**	Today: **317**
Yesterday: **2**	Yesterday: **339**

ACTIVE CASES
Today: **7,306**
Yesterday: **7,305**

POSITIVITY RATE	MORTALITY RATE
Today: **5.50%**	Today: **1.27%**
Yesterday: **5.51%**	Yesterday: **1.27%**

RECOVERY RATE Today: **98.48%** Yesterday: **98.48%**

DISTRICT-WISE COVID CASES
LAST 24 HOURS

Bengaluru Urban	**190**
Bengaluru Rural	**4**
Bagalkot	0
Ballari	4
Belagavi	4
Bidar	0
Chamarajanagar	2
Chikkaballapur	0
Chikkamagaluru	10
Chitradurga	0
Dakshina Kannada	20
Davanagere	1
Dharwad	5
Gadag	0
Hassan	17
Haveri	0
Kalaburagi	1
Kodagu	21
Kolar	0
Koppal	0
Mandya	4
Mysuru	14
Raichur	0
Ramanagara	2
Shivamogga	3
Tumakuru	9
Udupi	2
Uttara Kannada	4
Vijayapura	3
Yadgir	0

Unused jabs pile up at pvt hospitals

Govt yet to decide on booster shots; docs worried vaccines may be past expiry date by then

CHETANA BELAGERE @ Bengaluru

WITH no decision yet on booster shots, private hospitals across Karnataka are in a fix, not knowing what to do with the vaccine stocks which are nearing expiry. The Union Government has not given any directives on what has to be done with the vaccines. Private hospitals in the state have also stopped procuring fresh stocks.

"Though the inoculation rate in Karnataka is considerably good, not many people are coming to private hospitals now for vaccinations. We are left with stocks of unused vaccines. Last week, we requested the Centre to take it back from us," said a senior doctor from a private hosptial.

Representatives of the Private Hospitals And Nursing Homes Association (PHANA) had recently met the National Health Mission director with a request to take the vaccine doses that are lying with them. The NHM had assured them of writing to the Centre with a request to either buy back doses or pay hospitals so that they can provide vaccines to people free of cost.

"We have requested the government to intervene. As of now, we have around eight lakh vaccine doses in stocks. Of this, about 10 per cent will expire this month and another 15 per cent by January. By March, 90% of the vaccines will expire. We are hoping to hear from the Centre by Monday," said Prasanna, president, PHANA.

A healthcare worker loads a syringe with Covid vaccine in Bengaluru | EXPRESS

According to PHANA, most of the stocks are Bharath Biotech's Covaxin vaccine. A senior doctor from PHANA said some private hospital managements had directly contacted the vaccine manufacturer to take back the stocks, but they were told that the company can only revalidate the expiry date and send it back, and will not take back the vaccines.

"Hospitals are worried that if the boosters are not approved, then even revalidating the vaccines to May 2022 may not help," the doctor said.

With nearly 30 cases of Omicron in India, virologists and medical experts in the state are pushing for booster doses. A senior doctor from the Technical Advisory Committee of Karnataka said, "When several countries have decided to go for the booster dose, what more evidence is India waiting for?," he said.

PICKING UP PACE

'Vaccination increased by 45 pc since Dec 2'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

VACCINATION coverage in the city has increased by 45 per cent in the period between December 2 and 11. "This is a good sign, but it should not stop. Whoever is due for their second vaccine dose must not miss their date," said Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner Gaurav Gupta.

Speaking to the media on Saturday, he said 70 per cent of those eligible in Bengaluru have taken the second dose. However, there are some who are yet to take the first dose also. Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar also took to social media to announce that Karnataka crossed a milestone in vaccination coverage. "Karnataka crosses a major milestone by completing eight crore doses. We stand No.1 in India in the first dose coverage and No.3 in second dose coverage," he tweeted.

Gupta said that those with symptoms must get themselves tested for Covid-19 without delay. On the question of roping in film stars and cricketers as ambassadors for drawing people for vaccination and Covid-19 awareness, Gupta said the government is yet to take a decision on this.

On permitting Christmas and New Year celebrations, Gupta said many suggestions seeking permission and prohibition are before the government, but nothing has come to the BBMP so far. The central and state governments will take a decision based on the prevailing situation.

Pvt hospitals designated for treatment of int'l passengers

Bengaluru: The BBMP, late on Friday evening, released a list of private hospitals which are to have designated wards for treatment of international passengers found to be Covid-19 positive. The list of hospitals notified include Manipal Group of Hospitals, Apollo Group of Hospitals, Fortis Group of Hospitals, Suguna Hospitals, Sakra Hospital and Rainbow Childrens' Hospital (for children).

State needs more eye donors, says Sudhakar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Karnataka Government is looking to promote the setting up of more eye hospitals in the state. Speaking at the inauguration of a private eye hospital, Health and Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar urged private establishments to not only concentrate on establishing new facilities but also to create awareness about eye donation in society.

The country needs one lakh eye donations every year, but has only 5 per cent of donors. It is important to create awareness regarding eye donation, the minister said.

"We have a severe shortage of eye donors. Only 5 per cent of the people are donating their eyes. Especially, during the Covid times, eye donation has further taken a hit. The government will always support such noble causes and we also promote the establishment of eye hospitals in the state," said Sudhakar, in reference to Agarwal Eye Hospital's expansion plans in the state.

He further encouraged private hospitals to conduct eye camps in rural areas, while urging citizens to seek treatment early and receive appropriate surgery.

Over the next three years, Dr Agarwal's Eye Hospital plans to invest over ₹175 crore in expanding its presence in Karnataka. "Our largest presence is in Karnataka. We have 11 hospitals in Bengaluru alone," said Adil Agarwal, the hospital CEO.

COVID BYTES

10 students, teacher test +ve in NR Pura town

Chikkamagaluru: In a span of just 10 days, the second incident of 10 schoolchildren turning Covid positive along with a teacher was reported from Jeevan Jyothi Private School in NR Pura town. Talking to TNSE, DC K N Ramesh said that school authorities were told to seal the school for a week and medical staff are directed to take all precautionary measures. "All the infected children and teacher were kept in home isolation from Friday. The health condition of these infected is said to be stable," a source said.

School under lens for sending students on Hyd trip

DONNA EVA @Bengaluru

DESPITE strict guidelines in place due to Covid-19, a city school has allowed 122 students to go on a four-day school trip to Hyderabad, according to the Department of Public Instruction.

The children, all over 14 years of age and students of Cluny Convent High School, Jalahalli, were sent on the trip on Friday and are yet to return.

Speaking to TNSE, Block Education Officer, Bengaluru North, T N Kamalakara, said, "We're taking the matter very seriously as they had not taken any prior permission for the trip. We've contacted the school and directed both the principal and the management to order the children back wherever they are."

As of now, no formal action is being taken against the school, with only the students being ordered back. Kamalakara said that further action and a formal order will be issued to the school on Monday. "We got an anonymous call on Friday, so we sent a few officers to look into the allegation and found that the students had indeed been sent on the trip."

Kamalakara said, "They had not taken any prior permission from any of the authorities, though they are a state board school, and individually took the decision to organise the trip after taking consent from the parents. The students have gone on the trip in three separate buses with four to five teachers accompanying them."

However, contrading the BEO, the school principal claimed that rumours are being spread regarding the school.

Senior Congress leader and former Union Minister Veerappa Moily on Saturday criticised the State Government's decision to table the anti-conversion Bill in the upcoming session. Addressing the media in Chikkaballapur, Moily said by bringing in such a law, the government was acting against a particular community and was playing politics by dividing the society. "The new law will destroy the secular fabric of the nation. The government should not misuse the Constitution and single out one particular community."

Drop anti-conversion Bill idea, delegation tells CM

'It'll empower those already committing atrocities against minorities'

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@Bengaluru

WITH the State Government keen on tabling the anti-conversion Bill in the winter session of the Legislature in Belagavi next week, voices against the proposal are growing.

Ronald Colaco, an NRI entrepreneur and founding chairman of the International Federation of Karnataka Christian Associations (IFKCA), on Saturday, led a delegation comprising several Congress leaders to Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and presented a memorandum against the Bill. "The Bill is like a licence to perpetrators who are already committing atrocities against minorities by misusing the existing laws. Where is forced conversion as the statistics of the government shows that the Christian population has declined to 1.87% from 1.91% in last 10 years," he said. Colaco has to his credit calling on even RSS leaders such as Kalladka Prabhakar Bhat in 2011 over maintaining social harmony in the communally-sensitive coastal districts of the state. Colaco had reportedly contributed to the construction of a church at Venkatala in Bengaluru in 2012.

Former MLC Ivan D'Souza, who was part of the delegation, said they informed Bommai about their opposition to the Bill. "He replied that the government has not decided on introducing the Bill in the Belagavi winter session as it has to be placed before the Cabinet," D'Souza said.

BJP MLC Tulasi Muniraju Gowda asserted that he is prepared to table it as a Private Member's Bill. The 24-page draft is ready and he has sought permission of the Council Chairman, he added.

"If the government tables the Bill, I will welcome it. I hope it will also add some of my suggestions. But I am prepared to introduce it as a Private Member's Bill. It is crucial for the state to check religious conversions," he said.

But the Congress has clarified that it will vehemently oppose the introduction of the bill in any form. "Any such move by the BJP government against the minorities will draw the attention of the world and will dent a blow to the image of Bengaluru and affect investments," said KPCC president DK Shivakumar. "With elections approaching, BJP has been targeting a particular community. The forced conversion is a dud as there are no instances of Christian missionaries offering health and education benefits to the needy and converting them," he added.

Ronald Colaco, founding chairman of the International Federation of Karnataka Christian Associations, during a meeting with Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai in Bengaluru on Saturday | EXPRESS

SUNDAY INTERVIEW

'Legislation is not against any religion'

RAMU PATIL @Bengaluru

HOME Minister Araga Jnanendra says the Anti-Conversion Bill is not against any religion and there is no need for any apprehension in any community. "The government is fully committed to providing protection to all communities. The Bill is to stop forcible conversion in the state," the Home Minister told The New Sunday Express. Excerpts:

Will you bring the Anti-Conversion Bill in the legislature session starting from Monday in Belagavi?
Yes, we will. The process is under way and the Bill is almost ready. It will be brought during the session in Belagavi (from December 13 to 24). Religious conversion by force or inducements is wrong and we are bringing the law to prevent it. Many states have similar laws. We have studied similar laws in Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and other states.

There is a lot of apprehension among the Christian community about the Bill. How will you address it?
The Bill is not against any religion — Christians, Muslims or Hindus. People are free to practice their religion and the government is fully committed to protecting everyone. Promoting one religion by finishing another is not a religion and we are bringing the Bill to streamline it. There is no need for any apprehension among the Christian community or others.

Your views on the police in Belagavi reportedly issuing directives to people from the Christian community against holding prayer meetings in houses.
No, that is not true. Police are only following the rules and no other directive is given to them. However, in the name of holding prayer meetings, they cannot call people to meetings for conversion. Forcible conversion is against the Constitution and the police will stop it.

A report that was released recently in Bengaluru says Karnataka stands third in the country and first in South India in the number of attacks on Christians in 2021. Your views.
Many reports are coming out in different backgrounds. Official publication from the government is the fact. Many representatives from the Christian community had met me recently and I have told them there is no need for any fear or apprehension. There will be no disturbance to their prayers or the community in any way.

The Opposition criticised your comments on police taking bribes. How do you respond?
I have already clarified it. There was an attempt to kill those trying to stop a vehicle transporting cattle in my taluk. They sustained grievous injuries and we admitted them to a hospital. I was pained by it. At the same time, I got a call about a similar incident in Chikkamagaluru. I spoke in that background and it was only about those police personnel and not in general. As a Home Minister, I have a lot of respect for the police and the work they do day and night. We know what will happen if they don't work even for a single day.

During the session, the Congress is said to be preparing to put the government on the mat over the probe in the Bitcoin hacking case.
Let them raise any issue in the session, we are capable of responding to it. The government is not worried about it.

Promoting one religion by finishing another is not a religion and we are bringing the Bill to streamline it. There is no need for apprehension among Christian community or others

Araga Jnanendra, Karnataka Home Minister

'It seeks to single out Christians'

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

AHEAD of the start of the winter session of the legislature, wherein the government plans to introduce an anti-conversion Bill, Bengaluru Archbishop Peter Machado says the government's ineffective action against vigilante groups works as indirect encouragement. "We are hurt by the unpleasantness of all this hysteria around forcible conversion," he said in an interview. Excerpts:

Hosadurga BJP MLA Goolihatti Shekar has alleged on the floor of the House that 15,000 -20,000 people have been converted to Christianity forcibly in Chitradurga district and that his own mother had been converted forcibly? What do you have to say?
Government officials themselves inquired into his allegations on conversion and found that they were not true. The government inquiry report showed that 45 families who had converted, did not do so for any incentive but of their own free will. When they were asked if they would like to return to their previous religion, they refused saying they are happy being Christian. It would be right for Goolihatti Shekar to apologise before the House. In all humility, just like the Centre withdrew the farm bills, the state should take back the proposed Bill. If there is any case of forced conversion, they should conduct an inquiry and book the guilty.

Many right wing groups accuse Christians of proselytism?
Every religion does preach and tell others about their way of knowing God and this right is enshrined in Article 25 of the Constitution. All religions are free to propagate their faith. Why are only the Christians being targeted? Is it a crime for Christians to speak to someone about their faith? The law is seeking to single out Christians only.

There has been a lot of concern among parents of children studying in Christian schools as regards the children's safety, especially after recent attack on CBSE school when an exam was on.
I can understand there is apprehension among the people after the Rourkee incident and other places. Mostly these are attacks on institutions and not against individuals. We hear cases of some pastors who are threatened here and there. We cannot jump and say that we will try to protect ourselves, it is not advisable also. Many are advocating for installing electronic surveillance to safeguard their institutions and places of worship. Some interior villages do not have access to gadgets and there is no reliable power supply.

Do you suspect a political motive in all this, as suggested by certain rights groups?
There is a cause and effect. Our CM Basavaraj Bommai made a statement about moral policing wher he spoke of action and reaction. I think there is tacit approval or indirect encouragement from those in power as regards these vigilante mobs. If they are not effectively stopping these mobs, then it is as good as tolerating them and encouraging them. The government in power has to be doubly careful that such vigilante mobs will not be tolerated. It is sad that these vigilante mobs go scot-free and those who are victims of attacks are often penalized and some have had cases foisted against them.

Has there been pressure from parents of schoolchildren or relatives of patients in your institutions that you are indulging in conversion?
I was considering seeking the responses of parents to tell the administration honestly if there is any pressure to admit children to our schools and if they have fears that we are converting. Obviously, there is no such thing and I would be happy if the parents can, in their own way, tell the government. Christians have been about 2.1% of the population for more than 60-70 years. If we were forcibly converting, as alleged, our numbers should have increased exponentially and not remained stagnant.

Every religion does preach and tell others about their way of knowing God and this right is enshrined in Article 25 of the Constitution. All religions are free to propagate their faith

Bengaluru Archbishop Peter Machado

Woman who tried to 'convert' maid held for abetting suicide

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Mangaluru

THE Mangaluru city police arrested a 50-year-old woman for abetment to suicide after four members of a family died recently. The arrested, Noorjahan, is a matchmaker.

The family, Nagesh Sheriguppi (30), his wife Vijayalaxmi (26) and two children Sapna (8) and Samarth (4) were found dead at their house on Wednesday in the city. Nagesh reportedly smothered his wife and poisoned his two children and later hanged himself. Before ending his life, Nagesh had sent a voice message to ASI K Chandrashekar, accusing Noorjahan of trying to convert his wife, who worked as domestic help at her house and also blamed her for their death.

Mangaluru Police Commissioner N Shashi Kumar on Saturday said preliminary investigation revealed that Vijayalaxmi was working at Noorjahan's apartment. "Vijayalaxmi had told Noorjahan about her husband's torture and the latter had advised her to divorce Nagesh. Noorjahan had assured Vijayalaxmi of finding a suitable groom for her. Nagesh came to know about Vijayalaxmi planning to convert to Islam along with children and the couple often fought over it.

In October, Vijayalaxmi left the house and started living with Noorjahan, while Nagesh filed a missing complaint. He went to Noorjahan's house and fought with her and Vijayalaxmi. They were reunited six days later," the commissioner said.

The evidence of Noorjahan's promise of finding a new partner for Vijayalaxmi and other circumstantial evidence revealed that Noorjahan had abetted suicide, he said. Noorjahan was picked up the same day as the death of the family. She has been booked under Section 306(Abetment of suicide) and was arrested on Friday. She was produced before court and remanded in judicial custody.

Armed miscreant tries to attack priest in Belagavi

Belagavi: In a shocking incident, a miscreant armed with a sword tried to attack a parish priest of St Joseph Worker Church on Bauxite Road in Belagavi on Saturday. However, the priest escaped unhurt. According to Fr Francis D'Souza, a sword-wielding man jumped the compound wall of the church and entered the first floor around 3.15 pm. The miscreant was hiding in a room and attempted to assault Fr Francis. Later, the assailant fled the premises, said Fr Francis D'Souza. The priest called the APMC police who rushed to the to the spot. According to sources, the assailant's entry into church premises was recorded in a CCTV camera and the police have launched a manhunt to nab him. A case has been registered. ENS

CM calls for war against cyber crimes

ENS @Bengaluru

STATING that there can be no compromise in the war against cyber crimes and drug trafficking, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Saturday said, "We have zero tolerance for criminals and it is high time to wage a war against them." Sending out a tough message to cyber criminals in his address after launching the 'Cyber Secure Karnataka' campaign, Bommai said the state has introduced the CIR number system. "It is the first of its kind in the entire country, wherein an FIR will be registered and bank accounts of the victim and the offenders will be frozen following a mobile phone communication. Even Prime Minister Narendra Modi has appreciated it and it is being emulated by other states as well", he said.

He assured all help, in terms of technology upgrades, to equip the police in going after criminals. He also stressed the need for cyber laws to deal with criminals swiftly and effectively. "As the criminals have a wide network, we need to widen the Cyber Security Network," the CM said, and suggested that officials seek the cooperation and suggestions from the Centre in this regard.

He called upon the youth to use their knowledge of the digital space and gadgets as a weapon against cyber crimes and drug trafficking. Bommai rated the Cyber Crime wing of Karnataka as one of the best in the country, citing a case of Rs 50 crore cyber fraud in one of the government's departments being busted by the state police.

'CAA, NRC should be withdrawn'

ENS @Bengaluru

JAMAAT-e-Islami Hind (JIH) national president Syed Sadatullah Husaini has called for withdrawal of Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the National Registry of Citizens (NRC) on the lines of the farmer laws, which were recently withdrawn by the Central government. He was in the city on Saturday and met with some Muslim scholars, who drew up a resolution against the Karnataka government's move on anti-conversion laws.

"Politics and elections have become a tool to divide and polarise people. Our country is a cradle of different religions, languages and civilizations and is the largest democracy in the world. But today, its peaceful atmosphere is being ruined by communal elements, creating an atmosphere of mistrust between minority and the majority," he said. "A vicious attempt is being made to instill fear in the psyche of the weaker sections," he added.

Earlier in the day, he met some Muslim scholars and intellectuals, who expressed concern over the situation in the country and have drawn up a resolution urging the government to withdraw the proposed anti-conversion Bill, CAA and NRC and "avoid making laws that would deprive the people of their basic and Constitutional rights."

Husaini said that conversion of faith by force, threat or any kind of temptation should be opposed by everyone, but people should have the freedom to practice the faith of their choice. "The Christian community has been targeted and details of their places of worship and churches are being collected," said Husaini.

Cong launches membership drive in K'taka

ENS @Bengaluru

The state Congress on Saturday started a massive membership drive at over 2000 locations across Karnataka. Many senior leaders, including former CM Siddaramaiah and former ministers, took part in the drive at the block level. KPCC chief DK Shivakumar said enrolling as a party member is a must to contest any elections and also to hold positions in the party.

A digital membership enroller will be appointed at each booth and they will visit houses to register members using the party app. On Saturday, around 50,000 people were waiting to be registered, he said. Each 'active member' will have to enrol 25 members. Members will be registered using the party app and after verification. "Even my details were verified," he said. Shivakumar said MLC CM Ibrahim had visited the party office to enrol and also discuss party issues. Since Ibrahim was not carrying an identity card with him, he decided to enrol as a member at the booth, Shivakumar added.

A TRIBUTE

Dr Raj's ancestral home in Gajanur to house a photo museum

K SHIVA KUMAR @Mysuru

HERE is some good news for fans of the late matinee idol Dr Rajkumar. The actor's ancestral house at Doddagajanur on the Karnataka-Tamil Nadu border will soon be turned into a photo museum housing photographs of the late actor and his family.

The more than a century-old, tiled-roof structure will have a rare collection of photos of the Rajkumar family, including his son-actor Puneeth— fondly called Appu, who passed away recently.

The family has taken up the restoration of this dilapidated house to fulfil Appu's dreams. Gopal, a nephew of Dr Rajkumar, said that Puneeth, who visited Gajanur three months before his death, was disappointed seeing the condition of the house. He told his family members to repair the house as they had an emotional connect with it. Puneeth wanted the house to be converted into a museum that will introduce visitors to Dr Rajkumar and his contribution to the Kannada film industry. But fate had a tragedy in store for the family with the sudden demise of Puneeth. The family has now decided to include photographs of Puneeth too in the museum. Gopal has deputed workers to replace the wooden pillars and tiles. However, the original structure will not be altered. "Puneeth visited the house whenever he came to Gajanur. Several movies were shot here," recalled a villager.

Rajesh, a Puneeth's fan in neighbouring Talawadi, said the photo museum will not just attract fans from across Karnataka, but also from neighbouring Tamil Nadu. The museum will be in addition to the already existing places of tourist interest like Suvarnavathi and Chikkahole dams, K Gudi Safari at BRT sanctuary, and Bannariamman temple, within 8-km radius of the Chamarajanagar-Coimbatore national highway.

The ancestral house of Dr Rajkumar in Doddagajanur | EXPRESS

East Division police on Saturday opened fire at a 31-year-old rowdy-sheeter, who was involved in the abduction of former minister Varthur Prakash and also the abduction and killing of an autorickshaw driver for gain in July this year. The accused has been identified as Rohith alias Lohit, a resident of Bagalagunte.

FOUR ARRESTED IN 'MORAL POLICING' CASE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mangaluru

THE Mangaluru City Police have arrested four people in connection with a moral policing incident. A suo motu case was registered following a viral video of a girl and boy being harassed in a bus.

The arrested have been identified as Prakash, Raghavendra, Ranjith and Pavan. Mangaluru City Police Commissioner N Shashi Kumar told reporters that over five people were involved in the moral policing incident. The girl, a student of a private college, was travelling in a bus along with the boy from a different faith to Udupi. The girl hails from Udupi while the boy is from Shivamogga.

According to eyewitnesses, the girl and the boy were made to get off the bus, harassed and asked to show their identity cards. The accused have been booked under Sections 354 (Assault of criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty) and 506 (criminal intimidation).

Four detained in assault case

The Mangaluru City Police have also detained four people in connection with an attack on a man on Friday night. Mohammad Riyaz alias Riyaz Ahmad, aged 40, were brutally attacked by a group of 7-8 youths. Riyaz is an autorickshaw driver, who also has a real estate business.

Police Commissioner N Shashi Kumar said the incident occurred near Neermarga Padu post office. "The group attacked him with bats, iron rods and beer bottles. Riyaz was shifted to a private hospital and he is said to be out of danger. We have detained four persons," he said.

The Commissioner said they recovered footwear worn by a woman on the spot. "We will further investigate further to whom the footwear belongs. We have gathered information about reasons behind attempt to murder. We are questioning the four accused and will soon arrest all other accused," he said.

Moral policing: Three held

Meanwhile, Manipal Police have arrested three people on the charges of moral policing in Mannapalla lake on Saturday. Accused Sanjay Kumar, Pranesh and Vinuth Poojary from Parkala reportedly attacked Altaf (27) of Saligrama who was found with his friend at the lake.

It is said the girl from another community was his neighbour. Sources said the victim along with the girl had come to the Deputy Commissioner's office in Rajathadri for some work. Both of them went to the lake when they were attacked. A case was registered under Sections 341, 504, 506, and 323, read with 34 of IPC.

POLICE BOOK TWO OVER OFFENSIVE POSTS AGAINST CDS BIPIN RAWAT, DOVAL

MANGALURU: A case has been booked against three people by Mangaluru city police over offensive posts on social media against CDS Gen Bipin Rawat and National Security Adviser Ajith Doval. Three derogatory posts were made on the Facebook account of one Vasanth Kumar T K, Shrinivas Karkala and an unknown person. According to a complaint filed by one Sushanth Poojari, on the Facebook wall of Vasanth Kumar and Shrinivas Karkala, offensive posts were uploaded 'celebrating death of the late CDS and also expecting death of NSA Ajith Doval'. Mangaluru City Police Commissioner N Shashi Kumar said they are probing whether the social media accounts are fake, or from where these posts originated.

BIDDING ADIEU

Members of Citizens for Democracy pay homage to late CDS Gen Bipin Rawat in front of Town Hall, in Bengaluru on Saturday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS READ

In 100 days, 1.30 lakh houses got power

BENGALURU: Karnataka Energy Minister V Sunil Kumar on Saturday said that in 100 days, 1.20 lakh houses have been electrified across the state. Speaking to reporters here, Sunil Kumar said that after he took charge, it was discovered that many homes in the state did not have basic and essential power supply. Hence, a target was set. Data was collected and orders were issued to the officials to ensure that there is steady power supply. ENS

Students who attacked teacher to be charged

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Davanagere

THE district police initiated legal proceedings against Class 10 students who attacked a Hindi teacher at Nallur village of Channagiri taluk in Davangere district on Saturday. The students, who attacked the teacher, finally fell at the feet of teacher Prakash and begged pardon after which it was decided not to initiate action against them.

However, finally the district police registered a complaint against the erring students and an investigation is on.

Channagiri MLA Madal Virupakshappa said that children should be taught a lesson and they should be made to understand the trouble they have created, however, their education shouldn't be hindered.

It may be recalled that a video of five students of the government high school in Nallur misbehaving with their Hindi teacher went viral on Friday. The incident, which occurred last Monday, was on all social media platforms since Thursday, leading to outrage against the five students. According to the school authorities, teacher Prakash, who recently moved from Haveri district, was holding the class when one of the students tried to hit him with a dustbin, and then put the bin on his head. Prakash had reprimanded the students who were consuming gutka and littering in the classroom, and told them to maintain discipline, when they started misbehaving with him.

Complaints galore at traffic police grievances meet

ENS @ Bengaluru

FROM alarming phone thefts to malfunctioning traffic signals, citizens of Bengaluru poured out their grievances to Bengaluru Police Commissioner **Kamal Pant**, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) B R Ravikante Gowda and other senior police officials at the Sanchara Samparka Divasa, an initiative by the Bengaluru City Traffic police.

The event, held on Saturday, saw the participation of several social and environmental activists and other citizens. Aditya Kamath, a resident of Banashankari, pointed out to the alarming rate of phone theft in the city and the negligence of police officers towards the same. "On July 28, while travelling in an autorickshaw near Lalbagh Road, my phone was snatched. No action was taken despite reporting and notifying the police officers about this incident multiple times."

Human rights activist Hemanth threw light on the poor traffic management system in the city. "Malfunctioning traffic signals has led to a rise in signal jumping and road accidents," he added. Senior citizens raised the issue of vehicle parking on the roadside.

Kamal Pant promised to look into the issues. "Necessary measures will be taken to remedy the situation and we will work towards better traffic management," he added.

General Public are hereby informed that I **BABU RAO A T** S/o A Thukaram Rao Resident of 6/6 H B . Samaja, Link Road Basvanagudi Banglore. Confirm that I am resident of the above address. Following documents registered in mother's name Rama Bai vide No 251 of Book 4, volume 34 page 259 to 261,dated 14th Sep 1986 in sub reg office Hosur of Site No 57 Measuring 30 by 40,Survey No283/1 Mornpalli villege Hosur Taluk, Tamil Nadu. Has been misplaced between 13th Jul 07 to 7th Mar 2021 in our residence ,further complaint has been lodged on 19th Mar 21 through online vide 079071/2021 to this effect which has been duly acknowledged. Person finding the said original documents may kindly return the same to the under signed

Babu Rao A T
Mobile No 9341241223

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client intend to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner, **Sri.Krishnamurthy** S/o Sri.Kanchivaradappa alias Kanchappa, residing at Chikkakuntanahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk & District. Any Person/s or Institution/s having any Claim/s or Objection/s in respect of the Schedule Property may file the same along with supporting documentary evidence with the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no claim/s or objection/s is / are received by the undersigned within 15 days as stated above, my client will proceed further as the property is free from all claim/s and objection/s.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being agricultural land bearing **Survey No.7/1, measuring 33 Guntas excluding 03 Guntas of Kharab, situated at Chikkakuntanahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk and Ramanagara District,** is bounded on: East by: Land in Sy.Nos.7/4 & 7/5; West by: Land in Sy.No.8; North by: Land in Sy.Nos.82/9, 82/8 & 82/7; South by: Land in Sy.No.7/3;

Signature,
H. UMASHANKAR, Advocate
No: 8, 80ft Road, Chandra Layout, Bengaluru-40.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client intend to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner, **Sri. Hombaiah** S/o Late Muniswamaiah, residing at Chikkakuntanahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk & District. Any Person/s or Institution/s having any Claim/s or Objection/s in respect of the Schedule Property may file the same along with supporting documentary evidence with the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no claim/s or objection/s is / are received by the undersigned within 15 days as stated above, my client will proceed further as the property is free from all claim/s and objection/s.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being agricultural land bearing **Survey No.7/2, measuring 1 Acre 39 Guntas excluding 06 Guntas of Kharab, situated at Chikkakuntanahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk and Ramanagara District,** is bounded on East by: Land in Sy. No. 83/2; West by: Land in Sy.No.8; North by: Land in Sy.Nos.7/3 & 7/6; South by: Land in Sy.Nos.6/4, 6/3, 6/2 & 6/1;

Signature,
H. UMASHANKAR, Advocate
No: 8, 80ft Road, Chandra Layout, Bengaluru-40.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my client, have negotiated to purchase the schedule property with its owner **SMT NIRMALA @ NIRMALA MANJUNATH,** W/o. V.Manjunath, R/at No.3/240, I Main, 2nd Stage, Doddakallasandra, Kanakapura Main Road, Bengaluru - 560 072; If any third parties have any objections/claims of what so ever or any manner of right, title, interest or agreement over the same may lodge their claims with all supporting documents with the under signed within **FIFTEEN (15)** days from today. Any claims/objections raised after the said date will not be entertained, treating that there are no claims/objections shall proceed with purchase of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the vacant residential property bearing Site No. 170, formed by the Bangalore Development Authority, situated at Anjanapura Layout, 4th Block, Bangalore, measuring East to West : 12 Mtrs. and North to South : 9 Mtrs., totally measuring 108 sq. meters and bounded as follows:-**East by:** Road; **West by:** Private Property; **North by:** Site No.171; **South by:** Site No.169;

N. UDAYA KUMAR, Advocate,
No.1, 3rd Floor, Amar Towers, 1st Cross, Gandhinagar, Bangalore-09.
(M) 98865 49290. Place : Bangalore, Dated : 12-12-2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

The undersigned advocate submit on behalf of my client **VENI W/o. Murthy** aged about 46 years, R/at No. 439, 24th Cross, A Block, Janakiram Layout, Maruthi Sevanagar, Bangalore-560033 & another have filed the above petition for the death certificate of deceased by name **MEENAKSHI W/o. VENUGOPAL, as she was died on 05-04-2020** at No. 440, 24th Cross, A Block, BDA Layout, Maruthi Sevanagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560033. If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same or appear before the court as below **on or before 24/12/2021 in C Misc. No. 5301/2021.**

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
Sd/- SHERISTEDAR, COURT OF THE 36th A.C.M.M BENGALURU
PAVITHRA .R, ADVOCATE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The undersigned advocate submit on behalf of my client **RATHNAMMA .P W/o. Late Krishna Reddy .P** aged about 69 years, R/at No. 1323-10, Bidarahalli, Papaiah Building, Yellamma Water Tank, Annasandrapalya, Vimanapura, Bangalore-560017 & another have filed the above petition for the death certificate of deceased by name **Papaiah Reddy S/o. Late Ramaiah Reddy, as he was died on 10-02-1998** at No. 1323-10, Bidarahalli, Papaiah Reddy Building, Annasandrapalya, HAL Post, Bangalore-560017. If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same or appear before the court as below **on or before 23/12/2021 in C Misc. No. 5297/2021.**

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
Sd/- SHERISTEDAR, COURT OF THE 36th A.C.M.M BENGALURU
PAVITHRA .R, ADVOCATE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The undersigned advocate submit on behalf of my client **PUTTAMMA D/o. Late Hanumantharayappa** aged about 57 years, R/at No.87, Ground Floor, 3rd Cross, Maruthinagar, Gangodanahalli, Near Vaikunta Bar, Lakshmipura, Bangalore-562123 & others have filed the above petition for the death certificate of deceased by name **Sakamma W/o. Late Hanumantharayappa, who was died on 08-05-2020** at No. 115, 7th Cross, 2nd Main Road, Srinvasa Nagar, Sunkadakatte, Bangalore-560091. If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same or appear before the court as below **on or before 21/12/2021 in C Misc. No. 4085/2021.**

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
Sd/- SHERISTEDAR, COURT OF THE 15th A.C.M.M BENGALURU
Sri PUTTAMALLA, ADVOCATE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The undersigned advocate submit on behalf of my client **JESSI D/o. Late Muniswamy (Amal Raj)** aged about 54 years, R/at No. 38, 1st Main, C Cross, New Guddadahalli, Bengaluru South, Bangalore-560026 & others have filed the above petition for the death certificate of deceased by name **Muniswamy (Amal Raj) S/o. Late Sambugaiah, as he was died on 19-02-2009** at No. 38, 1st Main Road, C Cross, New Guddadahalli, Bangalore-560026. If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same or appear before the court as below **on or before 23/12/2021 in C Misc. No. 5299/2021.**

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
Sd/- SHERISTEDAR, COURT OF THE 36th A.C.M.M BENGALURU
PAVITHRA .R, ADVOCATE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client intend to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner, **Smt. Prema .K** D/o Sri. Kanchivaradappa alias Kanchappa, residing at Chikkakuntanahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk & District. Any Person/s or Institution/s having any Claim/s or Objection/s in respect of the Schedule Property may file the same along with supporting documentary evidence with the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no claim/s or objection/s is / are received by the undersigned within 15 days as stated above, my client will proceed further as the property is free from all claim/s and objection/s.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being agricultural land bearing **Survey No.7/5, measuring 05 Guntas, situated at Chikkakuntanahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk and Ramanagara District,** is bounded on: East by: Land in Sy.No.83/2; West by: Land in Sy.Nos.7/1 & 7/3; North by: Land in Sy.No.7/4; South by: Land in Sy.No.7/6;

Signature,
H. UMASHANKAR, Advocate
No: 8, 80ft Road, Chandra Layout, Bengaluru-40.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client intend to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner, **Smt.Anusuya** D/o Sri. Kanchivaradappa alias Kanchappa, residing at Chikkakuntanahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk & District. Any Person/s or Institution/s having any Claim/s or Objection/s in respect of the Schedule Property may file the same along with supporting documentary evidence with the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no claim/s or objection/s is / are received by the undersigned within 15 days as stated above, my client will proceed further as the property is free from all claim/s and objection/s.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being agricultural land bearing **Survey No.7/6, measuring 05 Guntas, situated at Chikkakuntanahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk and Ramanagara District,** is bounded on: East by: Land in Sy.No.83/2; West by: Land in Sy.No.7/3; North by: Land in Sy.No.7/5; South by: Land in Sy.No.7/2;

Signature,
H. UMASHANKAR, Advocate
No: 8, 80ft Road, Chandra Layout, Bengaluru-40.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client intend to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner, **Smt. Rathnamma** D/o Sri. Kanchivaradappa alias Kanchappa, residing at Chikkakuntanahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk & District. Any Person/s or Institution/s having any Claim/s or Objection/s in respect of the Schedule Property may file the same along with supporting documentary evidence with the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no claim/s or objection/s is / are received by the undersigned within 15 days as stated above, my client will proceed further as the property is free from all claim/s and objection/s.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being agricultural land bearing **Survey No.7/4, measuring 05 Guntas, situated at Chikkakuntanahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk and Ramanagara District,** is bounded on: East by: Land in Sy.No.83/2; West by: Land in Sy.No.7/1; North by: Land in Sy.No.82/7; South by: Land in Sy.No.7/5;

Signature,
H. UMASHANKAR, Advocate
No: 8, 80ft Road, Chandra Layout, Bengaluru-40.

PUBLIC NOTICE
(LOST OF DOCUMENT)

I, V. Thirupathaiah, S/o. of Chinnakondaiah, r/at No. 19, Nandini Road, R.S. Palya, Kammanahalli Main Road, Bangalore-560033, have lost the original Sale Deed documents relating to property bearing Sy. No. 1B1 measuring 0-03 Guntas situated in **Dommasandra Village** as document No. SRJ-1-06698-2012-13. If found please contact the undersigned.

Sd/- **V. Thirupathaiah**
Mobile : 9886639838

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Shazia Kausar, Mr. Mehaboob Ali Khan.Y.K** C/o. Yusuf Khan.B R/e at B.No.1200, New No.260, 3rd Cross, Thanisandra Main Road, Near HP English School, Soraipalya, Vidyasagar, Sarwar Layout, Bangalore-560077, **Mr.Mahaboob Pasha** S/o Mohammed Hayath R/o at No.196/35, 7th Cross, 1st Stage, Pillanna Garden, St. Thomas Town Post, Bangalore-560084, Those who are having any title, right, claim or interest in the Schedule property may contact me with their legitimate claims within 07 days, failing which my client will purchase the Schedule property, as the same is free from all claims/encumbrance and no claim shall be entertained later.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Eastern portion of Site No.7, Khatha No. 229/25/1/7, 8, Formed out of property No.25/1, Situated at Geddalahalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Now comes under the Jurisdiction of BBMP, Bangalore, measuring East to West 20 Feet and North to South 31 Feet, in all total measuring 620 Sq Ft and bounded on the

East By:Site No.8, West By: Remaining western Portion same Site No.7, North By: Road, South By: Private Property

Mr. Mehaboob Ali Khan.Y.K
C/o. Yusuf Khan.B R/e at B.No. 1200, New No.260, 3rd Cross, Thanisandra Main Road, Near HP English School, Soraipalya, Vidyasagar, Sarwar Layout, Bangalore-560077
Call:7795771146/ 9663105814

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients, Sri.B.A.Vishwanath Singh, S/o. late.A.R.Singh, has entered into an Agreement of Sale dated: 23.11.2021 to purchase of Agricultural property bearing Sy No.134, situated at S.Nagenahalli Majara (Palpal Dinne Village), Tubagere Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, totally measuring 2 Acre 07 guntas including 0.07 guntas Karab land and bounded on the East by: Government Halla and Gomala, West by: Land bearing Sy No.132 belongs to Srikannatappa and Ramanna, North by: land bearing Sy No.133 belongs to Seenappa, and South by: Land bearing Sy No.135 belongs to Narayanappa, from its lawful owners Sri.Shankara Murthy and Sri.N.V.Chandrashekar. Any persons/ institutions claiming to have any right, title, interest, charge, lien or minor claims whatsoever over the said property may lodge his/her/their/its claims to the undersigned with documentary proof within Seven (07) days of this publication, failing which it will be deemed that no other person/s/institutions have any claim, demand, right, interest or title by way of previous sale or agreement to sell or mortgage or objections to purchase the said property by my clients and any such claims shall have no liabilities on my clients and my client shall proceed and complete the sale, as if there is no such claims.

Sri. PRASHANTH.KUMAR. K
Advocate and Legal Consultant,
No.365, First Floor, Near Bhashyam Circle, Rajajinagara, 3rd Block, Bangalore-560 010. Ph No. 080-23404442

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have been retained by my client Smt. NANDASHREE R, Aged about 31 years, S/o Sri. Yuvaraj K, R/at.No.2, 9th Cross, Santhoshnagara, Attur, Yelahanka, Bangalore -560 064, to ascertain the title to her schedule property acquired by through regd. sale deed dated : 22.10.2021, from Sri. A Chandrashekar is registered in the Office of the sub-registrar, Yelahanka, vide Doc.No.4043/2021-22 and being mortgaged to Repco Home Finance Limited., Bangalore. Any person having any claim in respect to the schedule property, by way sale, exchange, gift, Morlgage, charge, trust, inheritance, possession, lease line or otherwise howsoever, or requested to inform the same in writing to the undersigned having office at : No. 15/7, 3rd Cross, Sampige Road, Malleshwaram, Bangalore -560 003 within 7 days from the date here of failing which the claim or claims if any such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Vacant Site. No. 14, Yelahanka CMC katha No. 42/2A, B.B.M.P Katha No. 3246/ 42/2A/14, ward No. 3 (Attur) situated at Santhoshnagara, Attur Layout, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North (Addl) Taluk, measuring East to West : 30 ft, North to South : 44 ft., totally measuring 1320 Sq.ft., presently comes under BBMP, Bangalore, presently comes under limits of BBMP, Bangalore and bounded on: East by : Narasimaiah's property, West by: Property no.13, North by:Road, South by: Thimmaiah's property.

T. A. HARISH, B.A.L., LL.B.
Advocate/Legal Advisor
15/7, 3rd Cross Sampige Road, Malleshwaram Bengaluru-560 003
E-mail: taharish80@gmail.com M:95355 06768
Place: Bangalore Dated 13.10.2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that, our Client is intending to purchase the Schedule Property mentioned below from its Owners Mrs. Hemalatha Kamaraj, wife of K.Kamaraj and Mr. Kamaraj K, son of S.P. Karuppaiah, both are residing at 809, Durshire way, Sunnyvale, CA-94087, USA. The Schedule Property was belonging to Sri. H. Narayana and same was purchased by the Owners in terms of two separate Sale Deeds (a) Sale Deed dated: 21.01.1998, in favour of Mrs. Hemalatha Kamaraj, registered as Document No.2517/1997-98, Book-I, Volume-4063, Pages-183 to 191, in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Shivajinagar, Bangalore City, and (b) Sale Deed dated: 21.01.1998 in favour of Sri. K. Kamaraj registered as Document No.2518/1997-98, Book-I, Volume-4065, Pages-209 to 217, in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Shivajinagara, Bangalore City. It is represented, further, by the Owners that they have clear, valid and marketable title to the Schedule Property and it is free from all encumbrances.

If any person/s who claim/s any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the said Schedule Property and/or any objections of any nature to the transaction should lodge such claims and/or objections in writing to the undersigned together with supporting documents **within Seven days** hereof, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and our Client would proceed to complete the transaction with aforesaid Owners subject to compliance with other statutory and legal formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

House Property bearing No.11, BBMP PID No.75-45-11, situated at Cambridge Road Cross, Ulsoor, Bangalore, measuring East to West:50 Feet and North to South:35 Feet, totally measuring 1750 Sq Feet, comprising of Ground and First Floor and bounded on the : East By :Smt. Shankunthal Site No.52, West By : Road, North By: Sri. A. Gopal's Property,South By: Smt. Vanajakashi's Property.

ADINATH NARDE
Adinath Narde and Revathy Associates, Advocates,
No.101, First Floor, "The Presidency", Old No. 1, New No.82, St. Mark's Road, Bangalore-01, Phone:22247651/22104246
Bengaluru, Dt: 11:12:2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client intend to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner, **Sri.Raju** S/o Sri. Kanchivaradappa alias Kanchappa, residing at Chikkakuntanahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk & District. Any Person/s or Institution/s having any Claim/s or Objection/s in respect of the Schedule Property may file the same along with supporting documentary evidence with the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no claim/s or objection/s is / are received by the undersigned within 15 days as stated above, my client will proceed further as the property is free from all claim/s and objection/s.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being agricultural land bearing **Survey No.7/3, measuring 33 Guntas excluding 03 Guntas of Kharab, situated at Chikkakuntanahalli Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk and Ramanagara District,** is bounded on: East by: Land in Sy.Nos.7/5 & 7/6; West by: Land in Sy.No.8; North by: Land in Sy.No.7/1; South by: Land in Sy.No.7/2;

Signature,
H. UMASHANKAR, Advocate
No: 8, 80ft Road, Chandra Layout, Bengaluru-40.

GENERAL PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the General Public, that my client **Mr. K. HARIPRASAD,** S/o K. Bhaskar Naidu, Aged about 45 years, Residing at 307 A, Sai Sumukha Classic, Opp. Kebab Mehal, JP Nagar, 7th Phase, Bangalore-560078. Adhar Card No. 9477 5679 1645, No. 1-28, Akanambattu, Puthalapattu, Chitoor, Andhra Pradesh-517124. Mobile No.9880564049, has lost the Original Documents ie, **"HANCHIKE PATRA"** (Allotment Certificate) has issued by the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) dated 29.11.2008 regarding the Site No.216, Jnanbharathi, 2nd Block, (Nagadevanahalli) Bangalore. Accordingly the public Complaint has lodged on dated: 11.11.2021 before the Bangalore Police on online by lost report No.0087158/2021.

SCHEDULE

All the part and parcel of the Site No.216, Jnanbharathi, 2nd Block, (Nagadevanahalli) Bangalore East-West: 9.14 meters and North-South by : 9.14 meters, of total measuring 83.54 meters.

East by: Site No.217, West by: Site No.215, North by: Road, South by: Private Property.

NG & Co.
NANDEESHA G., Advocate
612/1, 2nd Floor, Chandra Building, Avenue Road, Bangalore - 560 002.
Bangalore, Date: 11.12.2021

भारतीय पैकेजिंग संस्थान Indian Institute of Packaging

Admission Open for
DIPLOMA IN PACKAGING THROUGH CORRESPONDENCE
Course Duration 18 Months.
Last date for receiving filled Application form is Extended till **31st December, 2021**
For more details, please visit our website - www.iip-in.com & submit application form through Online.
Contact Details :-
Mr. Nitin Raibole, T & E; +91-8692943727 Ms. Sreeja Balaji, T & E; +91-8691853911
Mr. A.S. Ravi, A.D. T & E; +91-9869620990 Mr. Bhushan Surpur, A.D. +91-9821022112
Dr. Babu Rao Guduri, J.D. & Head T & E; +91-7208119238

KERALA STATE BEVERAGES (M&M) CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT OF KERALA UNDERTAKING)
Website: www.ksbc.co.in, E-mail: itd@ksbc.co.in
Notification No.KSBC/MD/140/Liq/2021-2022

NOTICE INVITING OFFERS FOR REGISTRATION FOR SALE OF IMFL , BEER & WINE TO KSBC UNDER GREEN CHANNEL INVITATION FOR RATE CONTRACT

For meeting the short supply of IMFL , Beer & Wine in the coming months Kerala State Beverages (M&M) corporation limited is inviting offers from the " Manufacturers owning a Distillery / Brewery / Blending Unit / Winery" for the supply of IMFL , Beer & Wine who are not in the current rolls of the Corporation on an urgent basis through Green Channel. Offers may be submitted by Sealed Cover to the Chairman & Managing Director's Office. Terms and Conditions governing the offers and other documents can be downloaded from the KSBC's Website www.ksbc.co.in

Thiruvananthapuram
Date: 10.12.2021
Sd/-
CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR

THE CUSTOMS, CENTRAL EXCISE AND SERVICE TAX HOUSING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED,
C.R. BUILDINGS, ANNEXE "D" QUEEN'S ROAD, BENGALURU – 560 001.
Phone No. 080 4164 5319 email id : ccebhs@gmail.com

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The Annual General Body Meeting for the year 2020-21 will be held on 19.12.2021 (Sunday) at NACIN, No. 40, HMT Factory Main Road, Jalahalli, Bengaluru – 560 013. General Body Agenda alongwith notice has been dispatched by post. Due to Covid restrictions only 200 people will be allowed inside the auditorium on first come first serve basis. Members desiring to attend the meeting via online can login using the link **https://youtu.be/WNvhdbjFBsg.**

As per para 09 of the byelaw approved by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies vide their letter dated 28.12.2013 it is hereby notified that members holding shares of less than Rs. 1000/- are requested to the pay the difference amount within 20 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which the membership will stand cancelled.

Sd/
(HEMANTH KUMAR)
SECRETARY

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanhalli Hosur Main Road Bangalore- 560068

Whereas

A housing loan facility was granted pursuant to a loan agreement entered into between ICICI Bank Limited ("Secured Creditor, which term shall include its successors and assigns) and the borrower & co-borrower, mentioned below ("Borrower(s)", which term shall include his/ its/ their respective [successors, assigns, heirs]. The undersigned being the authorized officer of the Secured Creditor ("Authorized Officer") under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, ('Rules") has issued demand notices under Section 13(2) of the Act calling upon the borrowers / co borrowers mentioned below to repay the amount payable pursuant to the loan agreement and as specifically mentioned in the said respective demand notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notices.

The borrowers / co-borrower, having failed and neglected to repay the amount as claimed in the said demand notices, a notice is hereby given to the borrowers / co-borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13 (4) of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Rules. The details including date of symbolic possession of the properties are as mentioned below

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Bright Rajan/ Sibiya Rajan/ LBBNG00001486867	(As Described in The Loan Document/ Property Document Covering All That Piece and Parcel of The Property Bearing Site No. 28. Hasb Kaths No. 1857/881, Situated at Venkatesh Colony. New Thippacandra. Bangalore 75, Presently Within The Limits of Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Ward No. 83. Banglore 75, Measuring East to West- 30 Ft. and North to South -30 Ft./ Date of Symbolic Possession-07.12.2021	07/06/2021 Rs. 54,68,456.00/-	Bangalore

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : December 10, 2021
Place: Bangalore
Authorized Officer
Secured Creditor

POSSESSION NOTICE

WHEREAS, the authorized officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** (Formerly known as Janalakshmi Financial Services Limited)., under the Securitization And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act,2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued demand notices to the borrower(s)/ Co-borrower (s) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned against the respective names together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices within **60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notices, along with future interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and/ or realisation.

Sr. No.	Loan No.	Borrower/Co-borrower/ Guarantor/Mortgagor	13(2) Notice Date/ Outstanding Due (in Rs.) as on	Date / Time & Type of Possession
1	30198850005101	(1) M/s. Vigneshwara Cutting Tools 2) Mr. Somashakear V, 3) Mrs. Rathnamma	05.05.2021 / Rs.4,42,806.78/- as on 18.04.2021	07.12.2021 / 3.10 p.m Symbolic Possession
	Description of the Property: All that piece and Parcel of property bearing Site No.110, Sl.No.104/A, Bannerghatta Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District in all measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30feet in all totally measuring 1200 sq.ft and bounded on: East by: ChampakadamaSwamy High School, West by: Road, North by: Road, South by: House of Lakshmipura Papanna.			
2	30198850005762	(1) M/s. Arjun Infotech 2) Mr. Ravichandra.J 3) Mrs. Apoorva	06.07.2021/ Rs.4,55,705/- as on 29.06.2021	07.12.2021 / 3.45 p.m Symbolic Possession
	Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No.30, Katha No.30 property No.63 Mantapa Village, jigani hobli Anekal Taluk Bangalore Measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 40 feet Totally measuring 1200 square feet, Bounded on the: West by: Site No.31, North by: Road, South by: Road. East by: Site No.29.			

Whereas the Borrower's/Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors, mentioned herein above have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby given to the Borrower's mentioned herein above in particular and to the Public in general that the authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the properties/secured assets described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned above. The Borrower's/Co-Borrower's/Guarantor's/ Mortgagors mentioned herein above in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid properties/Secured Assets and any dealings with the said properties/ Secured assets will be subject to the charge of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited.**

Place: Bangalore
Date: 11.12.2021
Sd/- Authorised Officer
For. Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
(A scheduled commercial bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1,11/2 &12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071. **Branch Office:** Divyashree Chambers, #11, O'Shaughnessy Road, 5th Floor, "A" Wing, Off Langford Road, Shanthi Nagar, Bengaluru-560025

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that My client, SRI. R.MANI S/o. Ramaswamy, Aged about 46 years, R/at. No.504, Avathi Village, Venkatagiri Kote Post, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, he had acquired quarry lease bearing Q.L. No. 2697, measuring 2 Acres of land, Land bearing Sy No.36, Situated at Dasarahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District initially for a period of 5 years with effect from 31.05.2018 under the QL No.2697, from the Department of Mines and Geology. My client state that with a fond hope of having the developed into quarry business, my client on 18.11.2019 has executed a General power of attorney in favour of SRI. SHANTH KUMAR, R S/o. Rudrappa, Aged about 33 years, Residing at: Avathi Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, said General Power of Attorney has been registered in the of the Sub-registrar Devanahalli, Vide Document No.DNH-4-00650-2019-20, Stored in CD No. DNHD-905, in Book No.4, dated: 19.11.2019.

Wherein my client had appointed SRI. SHANTH KUMAR. R S/o. Rudrappa as a his attorney to manager and had authorized him to carry the developments of the quarrying activities in the schedule quarry area but he can't doing anything in related to quarry works, whereas the Quarry lease No.2697 has been transferred in the name of M/s S.K. Stone Works, dated: 20.04.2021, said Transfer Quarrying Lease Deed has been registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Devanahalli, Vide Doc No. DNH--1-00917-2021-22, Stored in CD No. DNHD-1264, dated 22.04.2021, as such my client, are no longer interested in continuing him as his Attorney, as such my client hereby do revoke/cancel the power of Attorney dated 18.11.2019, executed by him, therefore My client on 07.12.2021 has issued legal notice to him and revoke/cancel the power of Attorney dated 18.11.2019. Therefore my client is informed to general public do not carry any business with the SRI. SHANTH KUMAR. R S/o. Rudrappa in relating to the above said quarry lease under the GPA dated 18.11.2019 and further informed my client to the General public or concerned departments have doing any business with the SRI. SHANTH KUMAR. R S/o. Rudrappa in relating to above quarry lease on the basis of GPA dated 18.11.2019, and my client not responsible any loss or right of the General Public in the matter.

A. Murthy, Advocate
No.1, 5th Main, Bagalur Main Road, Vinayakanagar, Opp. Big Market & ICICI Bank, IAF Post, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560 064. Date: 11-12-2021

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IN A GENTLE WAY, YOU CAN SHAKE THE WORLD
MAHATMA GANDHI

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE, MAYO HALL AT BENGALURU
P & S.C. No. 25082/2021

BETWEEN: 1.Ms. ATHRINE SAGAYAMARY .I, D/o Late Mr. S.M. IGNATIUS and Late Mrs. ARUL MARY, **2. Ms. MARIA BERNADETTE JACINTHA I., 3. Ms. MARY EMERENCIA, 4. Mr. JOSEPH ALOYSIUS .I, 5. Mr. MARIA JOSEPH KUMAR I., 6. Mr. TARSIUS IGNATIUS,** All Are R/at NO.60, CASA MARIA, 1ST MAIN, CHIKKA DEVASANDRA, K.R. PURA, BENGALURU-560036, KARNATAKA. ... **PETITIONERS**

AND: NIL ... RESPONDENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the Petitioners have filed the above Petition under Section 372 of the Indian Succession Act for Grant an order of Succession Certificate in favour of Petitioners succeeding to the estates of Late Ms. MARY JOSEPHINE FLORA, D/o Late Mr. S.M. IGNATIUS and Late Mrs. ARUL MARY employed at M/s. THE NEW CAMBRIDGE EDUCATIONAL TRUST, NO.957, 3RD MAIN ROAD, VIJAYANAGAR, BENGALURU-560040 and was Residing at No. 60, CASA MARIA, 1ST MAIN, CHIKKA DEVASANDRA, K.R. PURA, BENGALURU-560036, KARNATAKA and entitled to succeed to the Schedule Provident Fund Account described in the Schedule hereunder.

Interested parties are hereby notified to appear in the Court in person or by the pleader duly instructed on **20/01/2022** at 11 'O' Clock in the forenoon, to show-cause against the above Petition, take notice that, in default of your appearance on the date before mentioned, the Petition will be heard and determined in your absence.

SCHEDULE
(Description of the Provident Fund Account)

Out-standing Balance amount in Provident Fund Account bearing Number : PY/PNY/8749/389 standing in the name Late Ms. MARY JOSEPHINE FLORA at Employees Provident Fund Organisation, No.62, 3rd Cross, Industrial Suburb, Yeshwanthpura, 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560022.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 08th day of DECEMBER 2021 at BENGALURU.

By the order of the Court, Deputy Registrar, City Civil Court, Mayo Hall Unit, Bengaluru.

Advocate for Petitioners:
Mr. JAYKER VENUGOPAL
No.122, Hennur Main Road, Bengaluru-560084. Mobile: 9448704753

Government of Karnataka
Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Finance Department,
Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru

No.: FD 01 BMB 2021 Date: 09.12.2021

KARNATAKA GOVERNMENT STOCK (SECURITIES)

1. Aggregate Amount : Total Rs. 2000 Crore (Rs.1000 Crore - 10 Year Tenure) and (Rs.1000 Crore - 12 Year Tenure)
2. Method of Issue : By auction, through PDO, RBI, Mumbai (Fort)
3. Date of auction : December 14, 2021

Government of Karnataka invites subscription to the above securities. Copies of the Notification and Application forms may be obtained from PDO, RBI, Bengaluru. Non-competitive bidding facility has been introduced by RBI to encourage participation of retail investors. The Government stock up to 10% of the notified amount of the sale will be allotted to eligible individuals and institutions. Sample Tender Forms and the revised scheme of Non-competitive bidding facility is available on the website **www.rbi.org.in**

DIPR/DDU/53/MCA/2021-22

COVID-19 - DON'T SPREAD RUMOURS. ACT RESPONSIBLY, AVOID INFECTION-NOT THE INFECTED.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

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SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(PROJECT ORGANISATION)
Corrigendum No.3

Office of the Deputy Chief Signal & Tele-communication Engineer, Projects, I Floor, G.C. Building, Mc Nichols Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600 031.

The modifications, under Amendment & Corrigendum No.3 for E-Tender Notice No SG/Proj/I/MS/IP-MPLS 55 stations / 2021/EOT(06) dated 01.11.2021 are as detailed below:

Item No.	Particulars	As published in the website	To Be read as
1	Tender Closing Date Time	24.12.2021 14.00 Hrs.	07.0 1. 2022 14.00 Hrs.
2	Schedule A 01 & 02	Design, Fabricate & supply of rack mountable modular intelligent service aggregator router with minimum speed of 160Gbps, unit to supports 12VPN/L3 VPN, MPLS TP.....	Design, Fabricate & supply of rack mountable modular intelligent service aggregator router with minimum speed of 160Gbps, unit to supports 12VPN,L3VPN, MPLS-TE.....
3	Schedule A 22 & 23	Supply Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 24 port manageable switch Layer 2 .... Supply, Installation Testing and Commissioning of 24 port manageable switch Layer 3.......	Supply Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 24 port fully loaded with 12 optical .... Supply, Installation Testing and Commissioning of 24 port manageable switch Layer 3..........
4	Para 2.51 of Terms of Payment of Tender document	ON Account payment: a) Supply item 90% : Sch No 1A(I to vi), 1B(I to ----- b) Supply and Installation 70% :Sch No 2,20&21... c) Installation item 90% : Sch No 11......	ON Account payment: a)Goods and Goods incidental 90%: (Schedule item No:9...... b)works and services incidental 70% : (Schedule item No : 1 (1 to 6), 2(1 to 3).... c) Services incidental 90%: (Schedule item No. 13 ......
5	POC test setup	iii (f) In addition to the above, detailed....	iii (f) In addition to the above, test case..... iii (g) added

1. Tenderers are requested to consider the revised tender document. 2. Revised tender Notice and Tender document are available in the website **www.ireps.gov.in.** 3. All the term and conditions shall remain unchanged.

DY. CSTE / Project / I / MS

Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. KARUR Dist. Tamil Nadu
Ph.: 04324 - 277001 (10 Lines)
Email: purchase.wood@tnpl.co.in/purchase.cont@tnpl.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Scope of Work	Due date
212213 004220	Manual Packing of paper reels and Broke Handling in Paper Machines 1 & 2 and finishing area at TNPL Unit-I at Kagithapuram for the year 2022-23	24.12.2021

Detailed Terms & conditions, period, Tender fee, EMD are available in tender document at our websites : **www.tnpl.com / www.tenders.tn.gov.in.**

DIPR/3997/Tender/2021 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்."

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Retail Assets Central Processing Centre-II, KORAMANGALA
No. 12, 80 ft Road, 7th Main, 3rd Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru -560 034.
Tel: 080 -25943803, Fax: 080 -25943800 E mail: maintracpc2.ban@sbi.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 (HEREINAFTER CALLED ACT)

A Notice is hereby given that the below mentioned Borrower has defaulted in the repayment of prinicipal and interest of the loan facility obtained by him from the Bank and the loan has been classified as Non performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to him under Section 13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on his last known addresses, but have been returned un-served and as such he is hereby informed by way of this public Notice.

Name and address of the Borrowers: 1). **Mr. Asif Ahmed,** G-A, Palm Tree Place Apartment, #23, Palm Grove Road, Victoria Layout, Bangalore-560 047. **Also at:** Flat No. F1, 1st Floor, Hassan Enclave, # 6/1, Curley Street, Richmand Town, Bangalore-560 025.
2. Mr. Akhtar Mecci. MH (Guarantor), # D 2, Hidden Nest Apartment, # 16, Leonard Lane,Richmond Town (Near Post office),Bangalore-560 025
A/c No. HTL 64151748071
Outstanding Loan Amount: Rs. 56,24,190/-(Rupees Fifty Six Lakhs Twenty Four Thousand One Hundred and Ninety only) as on **18.11.2021** and interest from **19.11.2021** together with incidental expenses, cost, charges, etc.
NPA Date: 29.10.2021 **Demand Notice Date: 20.11.2021**
Schedule of Property :Schedule 'a' : All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No. 6/1 at Curly Street, Richmond Town, Bangalore-560 025 in BBMP ward No. 76, PID No. 76-50-6/1 measuring East to West 61ft 4 inches and North to South 40 ft totally measuring 2454 sft, and bounded on the East by : Curley Street, West by : Private property (earlier described as No. 6, Curley Street), North by: Private property (earlier known as Dulgot Owell: No. 5, Curley Street), South by : Private Property(earlier described as No. 6, Curley Street),
Schedule 'b' : 313 sft of undivided share of land in property bearing No. 6/1, situated at Curley Street, Richmond Town, Bangalore-25 within BBMP ward No. 76, PID No. 76-50-6/1.
Schedule 'c': Residential Flat no.F 1, Front side (Road Facing), situated on the First Floor having super built up area of 1150 sft having RCC roofing and vitrified Flooring in the building known as **"HASSAN ENCLAVE"** on the Schedule a Property along with one car parking space marked as slot F 1 in the Stilt Floor.

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Borrower(s) and their Guaranotrs (whenever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of this notice under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Secutitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security interest Act, 2002. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub- section 13 of Section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said securied assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank.
The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Date : **10.12.2021**
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
State Bank of India,
RACPC-II Koramangala

YES BANK LIMITED
Regd. & Corporate Office : Yes Bank House, Off Western Express Highway, Santacruz East, Mumbai-400055.
CIN: L65190MH2003PLC143249, Email: communications@yesbank.in, Website: www.yesbank.in
Branch : Prestige Obelisk, Municipal No.3, Ground Floor, Kasturbaa Road, Bangalore-560001

Possession Notice

Loan Account Details:
1.Cash Credit 0002284600000555
2.Bills: (005BM01202440001,005BM01202440002, 005BM01202440003)

Whereas, **the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of YES BANK Limited under the Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand notice dated May 18th, 2021 calling upon (1) M/s. Dianche Inc** ("Borrower"), residing at No.27, 1st B Cross Road, Sudhama Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka **(hereinafter referred to as "Borrower"), (2) Mr. Jitendra Chopra** (hereinafter referred to as Partner & Guarantor) , **(3) Mrs. Anjana Bantiya** (hereinafter referred to as Partner & Guarantor), **(4) Mrs. Shanti Devi** (hereinafter referred to as Guarantor), **(5) Mr. Lalit Jain** (hereinafter referred to as Guarantor), **(6) Mr. Nirmal Bantiya** (hereinafter referred to as Guarantor) **are residing at** No.50, Nirmal Deep, Yamunabai Road, Opp ETV Office, Madhavanagar, Bangalore-560 001 **to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice being INR 5,69,51,534.26/- (Rupees Five Crore Sixty Nine Lacs Fifty One Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Four and Twenty Six Paisa Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.**

The Borrower, Mortgagors and Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower, Mortgagors and Guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the **8th day of December of the year 2021.**

The Borrower, Mortgagors and Guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the said properties and any dealings with the said properties will be subject to the charge of YES BANK Limited for an amount of **INR 5,69,51,534.26/- (Rupees Five Crore Sixty Nine Lacs Fifty One Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Four and Twenty Six Paisa Only)** as on **18th May 2021** together with further interest and other charges thereon with effect from **19th May 2021.**

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Description of the mortgaged property	Boundaries	Mortgagor
All the piece and parcel of immovable property bearing at Flat No. 202, First Floor, Vista Highland, New Municipal No.14, Old Municipal Nos.14, 15, 16, 16/1,17 and 18, PID No.77-94-14, Yamunabai Road, Madhavanagar, Bangalore - 560 001. Measuring 2581.66 Sq.ft.	East : Kumar Cot Layout, West: Yamuna Bai Road, North: Private Property, South : Property bearing No. 19	Mrs. Shanti Devi

Place: Bangalore
Date: 08-Dec-2021

Sd/- (Authorized Officer)
K Raghu Prasad
YES BANK Limited

KARNATAK UNIVERSITY PRESS
Pavate Nagar, Dharwad - 580003.
Karnatka India Phone:0836-2215354

ಉ.ಸಂ./Ref. No.: KUP/Adm/2021-22/317 Date: 09.12.2021

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E-Procurment System only)

E-Tenders is invited from reputed manufacturing companies/authorized dealers for the printing materials to Printing Press, Karnatka University, Dharwad-580 003. Last date for submission of online tender form is 24/12/2021. For more details download the information from **https://eproc.Karnataka.gov.in.**

1.	Date of Sample submission	17.12.2021 by 17.00:00 hrs
2.	Last Date and Time of receipt of tender:	24.12.2021 at 17.00:00 hrs
3.	Date of Technical bid Opening:	27.12.2021 at 17.05:00 hrs
4.	Date and time of financial bid Opening:	28.12.2021 at 17.05:00 hrs

Sd/- REGISTRAR

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II AT BANGALORE
No.4, LIC Jeevan Mangal Building, Residency Road, Bangalore 560025
O. A. No. 810/ 2020

BETWEEN : STATE BANK OF INDIA
Assets Recovery Management Branch, 2nd Floor, BKG Complex, Avenue Road, Bangalore - 560009. **...Applicant**
AND: Sri. Ambarish K. C. ...Defendants

Summons Issued Under Rule 23 (viii) Of The Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules 1993 To The Defendant

WHERE AS, the Applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Bank and Financial Institutions Act,1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.35,19,890/-(Rupees Thirty Five Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety Only)** together with current and future interest and other reliefs.

You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication of this summons or on **11.01.2022 at 10.30 A.M.** in person or by a pleader / Advocate duly instructed as to why the reliefs prayed for should not be granted. Take notice that in case of default the Application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this tribunal on the **08 th day of December, 2021.**

BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL, REGISTRAR DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II BANGALORE

TO : Sri. Ambareesh K.C.
S/o. Sri. Chandre Gowda,
86, 38th Main, 17th Main, Rose Garden, J.P.Nagar, 6th Phase, Bangalore-560078.

QuoteExpress
PROBLEMS ARE NOT STOP SIGNS, THEY ARE GUIDELINES
ROBERT H SCHULLER

Office of the Executive Engineer
RDW&S Department, Court Road,
Chamarajanagara Division,
Chamarajanagara.

Office And EE : 08226 -226054
E-mail eerdwsd.chn@gmail.com

E-Procurement Tender Notification No.12/2021-22, Dated: 06-12-2021

On Behalf of Governor of Karnataka, The Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Dept, Chamarajanagara Division, **Chamarajanagar** Invites from eligible SC / ST / General Contractors (Category of Contractors will be as per E-procurement Portal) for the execution of **Providing FHTCs to Households in Habitations in Kollegala Taluk, Providing Drinking Water Supply to 291 Habitation of Hanur Assembly Constituency in Kollegal Taluk in Chamarajanagar District. Phase-I under DBOT & through Providing Drinking Water Supply to Tagarapura and Other 19 Villages of Kollegal Taluk and 45 Villages of Yalandur Taluk in Chamarajanagar District under DBOT.** The eligible Class-III & Above for SC / ST Category Civil Contractors and Class-11 & Above for General Category Contractor are required to submit through E-Procurement portal **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** The Notification includes 51 Packages Works, Estimated Cost varies from Rs.30.80 Lakhs to Rs.249.00 Lakhs. Tenders are invited through E-procurement Portal Only.

1	Date and Time of Publication of Tender	09.12.2021 Onwards
2	Last date of Submission of bids	21.12.2021 @ 17:00 hrs
3	Pre Bid meeting to be held on	15.12.2021 at 11:00 hrs Venue: Office of Executive Engineer, RDW&SD Division, Chamarajanagara -571313 or through E-mail: eerdwsd.chn@gmail.com
4	Date and Time of opening of Technical Bids	23.12.2021 @ 11:00 hrs
5	Date and Time of opening of Financial Bids	After Successful Technical Bid Evaluation

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
RDW & S Department
Chamarajanagara Division
Chamarajanagara

DIPR:CHANAGAR1375:2021-22

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank **Branch Office:**ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanhalli Hosur Main Road Bangalore-560068

Whereas
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	G D Shankar/ H Pushpalatha/ LBBNG00004080701	0101 D Kengeri Paltinum 0101 D Middle Class Areana Bangalore- 560058/ Date of symbolic possession- 07.12.2021	26.06.2021 Rs. 27,41,750.00/-	Bangalore
2.	Vineeth K Bhat/ Rashmi Shenoy/ LBBNG00001272911 LBBNG00001080113	**Schedule-A** (Description of The Entire Property) All That Piece and Parcel of The Property Bearing Sy.No.183, Duly Converted By The Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore, Vide Conversion Order NO.B.DIS.ALN.SR(S) 150/91-92, Dated 17-12-1991, Rajarajeshwari Cmc Katha No.3914, Situated At Halagevaderahally Village, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Measuring 44,800 Square Feet **Schedule-B** (Description of Undivided Share Conveyed) An Undivided Share of 650.78 Sq.ft Lands On The Schedule 'A' Property. **Schedule-C** (Description of The Flat Hereby Conveyed) A Two Bed Room Flat Bearing No. G-23/2B, on The Ground Floor in Apartment Building Known As The "Best Apartments" Constructed in The Property Described In Schedule A Hereto, With A Built Up Area of 1160 Square Feet, Along With Exclusive Right to Use of One Car Park/ Date of Symbolic Possession-07.12.2021	14.06.2021 Rs. 11,98,855.00/-	Bangalore
3.	Yoganand B N/ Narayanappa Nandini/ LBBNG00001858122	**Schedule "A" Property** All That Piece and Parcel of Residential Property Bearing Carved Out of Sy No. 189, Clubbed & Khatha No. 635/189/676/17/17a/627, Situated At Halagevaderahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk Bangalore- 560098 Measuring East to West 120 Feet And North to South 125 Feet, In All Measuring 15000 Sft With All Rights, Appurtenances Whatsoever Underneath Ot Above The Surface. **Schedule "B" Property** 278 Sft Of Undivided Share, Right, Title And Interest In The Land Comprising In Schedule 'A' Property Mentioned Above Together With Two Bed Room Apartment Bearing No. FF4 in The First Floor, Measuring 1210 Sft Super Built Up Area With Vitrified Tiles Flooring With One Covered Car Parking Slot Be The Part of Multistoried Residential Complex Known As "Sumukha Enclave" Constructed At Schedule 'A' Property Along With One Half Part in Depth of The Joints Between The Ceiling of The Apartments And The Floor of The Space Above It and Internal and External Walls Such Level As With Concealed Wiring With Proportionate Share In Common Access And Areas of The Building Like Entrance Foyer, Common Corridors In All Floors, Staircases Including Landing Up To The Terrace, Machine Room Housing And Lift Machineries of Passenger Elevat or Along With Necessary Cabin, Winches And Motor Etc., Pump Sets, Houses In Pump Room Along With Necessary Valves, Starters Etc., and Common Areas Electrical Systems. Date of symbolic possession- 07.12.2021	08.06.2021 Rs. 19,85,814/-	Bangalore

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : December 10, 2021
Place: Bangalore

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that, Mr. B. S. Narahari @ B. S. N. Hari, son of Late B. N. Satyanna ('Owner') is the sole and absolute owner in possession of immovable properties admeasuring 07 Acres 09 Guntas, mentioned here under, all situated at Gunjuru Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and Bangalore Urban District (morefully described in the 'Schedule' hereto and hereinafter referred to as 'Schedule Property'). Mr. B. S. Narahari @ B. S. N. Hari, son of Late B. N. Satyanna had entered into a joint development arrangement with Mantri Developers Private Limited ('Developer'), in connection with the development of the Schedule Property.

The following original title documents with respect to the Schedule Property have been lost/ misplaced:

Sl. No.1, Sy. No. 20 & 21 Sale Deed dated 11.08.1969 (Registered as Document No. 2284/1969-70) executed by Mr. M. Siddalingappa, son of Mr. Nanjappa in favour of Mrs. Yellamma, wife of Mr. Channappa with respect to Survey No. 20 (measuring 01 Acre 29 Guntas) & Survey No. 21 (measuring 24 Guntas).

Sl. No.2, Sy. No. 125/4, 125/5, 126/1,126/5 & 126/6 (I)Sale Deed dated 17.10.1960 (Registered as Document No. 3203/1960-61) executed by Mr. KaladiKaverappa in favour of Mr. Nanjundappa, son of Mr. Munivenka- tappa with respect to Survey No. 126/6 (measuring 25 Guntas); (ii) Sale Deed dated 26.06.1967 (Registered as Document No. 1269/1967-68) executed by Mrs. Maramma, wife of Mr. KaladiKaverappa & another in favour of Mr. Nanjundappa, son of Mr. Munivenkatappa with respect to Survey Nos. 125/4 (measuring 05 Guntas), 125/5 (measuring 05 Guntas), Survey No. 126/1 (01 Acre 13 Guntas) & 126/5 (measuring 01 Acre 03 Guntas); and (iii) Sale Deed dated 29.01.1973 (Registered as Document No. 6195/1972-73) executed by Mr. Nanjunadappa, son of Mr. Munivenkatappa in favour of Mr. B. Muniyappa, son of Mr. Hanumaiah with respect to Survey Nos. 125/4 (measuring 05 Guntas), 125/5 (measuring 05 Guntas), Survey No. 126/1 (01 Acre 13 Guntas), 126/5 (measuring 01 Acre 03 Guntas) & 126/6 (measuring 25 Guntas).

Sl. No.3, Sy. No. 127/3 General Power of Attorney dated 02.07.2004 (Unregistered) executed by Mr. G. H. Harish and Mrs. Rajakumari in favour of Mr. Hagadoorappa, in connection with Survey No. 127/3 measuring 30 Guntas.

Despite best efforts by the Owner and the Developer,the aforesaid original title documents have not been traced and a Police Complaint intimating the loss of the original title documents has been filed with online Last Article Report, Bengaluru City Police website, on 10.12.2021vide Lost Report No.0108770/2021. Members of the public are hereby notified that in the event any person/s has/have found/ discovered/ is/are in custody of the original title documents, such person/s is/are hereby requested to return thesaid original title documents to the undersigned, at the below mentioned address.

SCHEDULE
(Description of the Schedule Properties)

All that piece and parcel of immovable properties being converted for residential purpose, described in the table below, totally measuring 07 Acres 09 Guntas, situated at Gunjuru Village, VarthurHobli, Bangalore East Taluk and Bangalore Urban District:

Sl. No.1, Sy. No. 20, 1 Acre 32 Guntas, Boundaries:- East by : Property bearing Survey No. 23; West by : Property bearing Survey No. 126/2; North by :Property bearing Survey Nos. 19 and 126/5; and South by : Property bearing Survey No. 21.

Sl. No.2, Sy. No. 21, 0 Acre 26 Guntas, Boundaries:- East by: Property bearing Survey No. 23; West by: Property bearing Survey No. 126/2; North by :Property bearing Survey Nos. 20; and South by: Property bearing Survey No.22.

Sl. No.3, Sy. No. 125/4, 0 Acre 5 Guntas, Boundaries:- East by : Property bearing Survey No. 125/5; West by : Property bearing Survey No. 129/3; North by : Property bearing Survey Nos. 127/2; and South by : Property bearing Survey No. 125/3.

Sl. No.4, Sy. No. 125/5, 0 Acre 5 Guntas, Boundaries:- East by : Property bearing Survey No. 126/1; West by : Property bearing Survey No. 125/4; North by : Property bearing Survey Nos. 127/2; and South by : Property bearing Survey No. 125/3.

Sl. No.5, Sy. No. 126/1, 1 Acre 13 Guntas, Boundaries:- East by : Property bearing Survey No. 126/6; West by : Property bearing Survey No. 125/3 and 125/5; North by : Property bearing Survey Nos. 127/2; and South by : Property bearing Survey No. 126/2.

Sl. No.6, Sy. No. 126/5, 1 Acre 3 Guntas, Boundaries:- East by : Property bearing Survey No. 19; West by : Property bearing Survey No. 126/6; North by : Property bearing Survey Nos. 127/3; and South by : Property bearing Survey No. 20 and 126/2.

Sl. No.7, Sy. No. 126/6, 0 Acre 25 Guntas, Boundaries:- East by : Property bearing Survey No. 126/5; West by : Property bearing Survey No. 126/1; North by : Property bearing Survey Nos. 127/2; and South by : Property bearing Survey No. 126/2.

Sl. No.8, Sy. No. 127/3, 0 Acre 30 Guntas, Boundaries:- East by: Remaining portion of property bearing Survey No. 127/3; West by : Property bearing Survey No. 127/2 & 127/4; North by : Proposed CDP Road and Property bearing Survey Nos. 128/6; and South by: Property bearing Survey No. 126/5.

Sl. No.9, Sy. No. 127/3, 0 Acre 30 Guntas, Boundaries:- East by: Remaining portion of property bearing Survey No. 127/3; West by : Property bearing Survey No. 127/2 and 127/4; North by : Proposed CDP Road and Property bearing Survey Nos. 128/6; and South by: Property bearing Survey No. 126/5.

Sd/-.,
Srinivas B. R. & Brijita Prakash, Partners
DUA ASSOCIATES, Advocates & Solicitors,
130/1, 2nd Floor, Ulsoor Road, Bangalore – 560 042.
Tel: 91-80-25588799 / 25589909, Fax: 91-80-25588801.

Date:11.12.2021
Place: Bengaluru

YES BANK LIMITED
Regd. & Corporate Office : Yes Bank House, Off Western Express Highway, Santacruz East, Mumbai-400055.
CIN: L65190MH2003PLC143249, Email: communications@yesbank.in, Website: www.yesbank.in
Branch : Prestige obelisk, Municipal No.3, Ground Floor, Kasturbaa Road, Bangalore-560001

POSSESSION NOTICE

Loan Account Details: Facility / A.c no's.
022LA40200580001, 022LA40200580002, 022LA40201600001, 022LAFT202690001, 022LAFT202690002, 022LAMI210780001 002284600000429, HLN002200154600, HLN002200166634

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of YES BANK Limited under the Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand notice dated **August 24th, 2021** calling upon **(1) M/s. Neptune Travels India Pvt Ltd. ("Borrower"),** residing at #49, Subbaram Chetty Road, Basavangudi, Bangalore-560 004 (hereinafter referred to as "Borrower") **(2) Mr. Harinder Agarwal (hereinafter referred to as Managing Director & Guarantor), (3) Mrs. Uma Agarwal (hereinafter referred to as Director & Guarantor)** and **(4) Ms. Monica Agarwal (Guarantor)** are residing at No-806, 8th Floor, Raxton Block Divyashree, Elan Homes, Kaikondrahalli Carmelaram, Bangalore Karnataka 560035 to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice being **Rs.27,10,14,438.30 (Rupees Twenty Seven Crore Ten lakh Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Eight and Thirty paisa only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower, Mortgagors and Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower, Mortgagors and Guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the **9th day of December 2021.**

The Borrower, Mortgagors and Guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the said properties and any dealings with the said properties will be subject to the charge of YES BANK Limited for an amount of **Rs.27,10,14,438.30 (Rupees Twenty Seven Crore Ten lakh Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Eight and Thirty paisa only) as on 31st July 2021** together with further interest and other charges thereon with effect from **1st August 2021.**

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of Immovable Properties as mentioned in the schedule listed below with SL No 1,2, 3 and 4

SL No.1 : All that piece and parcel of property being a land and building bearing no. 49 measuring East to West about (38'9" + 36)/2 and North to South about (59'3" + 58'9")/2 and in all totally measuring 2200 Sq.ft as delineated in the plan annexed herewith, situated at Subbarama Chetty Road, Basavangudi, Bangalore-560 004 and presently failing within Corporation Division No. 51 of Bangalore Mahanagar Palika and bounded by: On East by: S M Surendra Kumar's Property; On West by: East Anjaneya Temple Street; On North by: S M Sundarraj Property; On South by: Subbarama Chetty Road;

SL No. 2 : All that piece and parcel of land and building bearing no. 157, III Phase situated at Avalahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk formed by the Vishwabharathi House Building Co-operative Society Ltd and bounded by East: Site No. 126; West: 30'-0" Road; South: Site No. 156/A; North: 30'-0" Road; Measuring East to West: 55 Feet and North to South: 30 feet.

SL No.3 :
Schedule A Property : All that piece and parcel of residentially converted land measuring a total extent of 1 Acre 20 Guntas now bearing BBMP Khatha No. 5 carved out and forming a part of Sy.No. 49/1B, situated at Kothanur Village, KR Puram Hobli, Bangalore Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk(Converted vide Official Memorandum bearing No. ALN(East).Sr.(KH).264/2007-08 dated 12/11/2008 read with official memorandum bearing ALN(East)SR(KH) 264/2007-08 dated 25/08/2010 , both issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner Bangalore District, Bangalore) and Bounded on East: Road; West: Remaining Portion of Property bearing Sy.No. 49/1B; North: Property being portion of Sy.No.49/1B on which Orchid Woods Project has been developed; South: Remaining Portion of Property in Sy.No.49/1B;
Schedule B Property : 4% undivided share, right, title and interest in Schedule A Property measuring about 2613.6 Sq. ft in an undivided state has been sold to the Purchaser by the Owner/Vendor under this deed
Schedule C Row House : All that piece and parcel of the Row House bearing No.21, measuring about 5476.5 sq ft of super built up area along with 2613.6 Sq Ft of the undivided share in residential apartment known as "CORINTH" constructed on BBMP Khata No.5, carved out and farming a part of Sy.No.49/1B, situated at Kothanur Vilalge, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk., consisting of Four bedrooms with RCC roofings, marble flooring, teakwood doors and aluminums windows comprising of Basement, ground and 2(two) upper floors constructed on the Schedule A Property with terrace area attached thereto along with 2 (two) covered car parking spaces exclusively earmarked for the sole use and enjoyment of the purchaser in the basement of the row house inclusive of the proportionate share in the common areas such as passages, lobbies, lift, stair-case and other areas of common use.

SL No 4 :
Schedule A Property - All that piece and parcel of residentially converted land bearing survey no. 60/1A and 63/1A vide its official order bearing No. ALN/SRE (E) 332/2004-05, dated 15.04.2005 by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore, both situated in Pattandur Agrahara Village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, (erstwhile Bangalore South Taluk), Bangalore in all measuring 4 Acres and 12 Guntas presently within the jurisdiction of the City Municipal Council, Mahadevpura, in Ward No. 16 Bangalore and bounded as follows:- On East: Property in Sy.No. 93/1B; West: Property in Sy.No. 63/2; North: Property in Sy.No. 64; South: Property in Sy.No. 60;
Schedule-B : (Description of undivided share hereby conveyed)
An undivided 1.005% share in the land comprised of 1757.471 Sq.ft in Schedule 'A' Property
Schedule C : (Description of Apartment)
a) Residential Apartment: A Four Bedrooms Duplex Apartment bearing No. 202-E Admeasuring Built up area of about 2208.26 Sq. ft situated on the second floor Block- 'E' Phase- 'I' of the Building known as 'CITILIGHT RUSTIQUE' being constructed on the schedule 'A' Property
b) Appurtenances: - Along with the attached to the residential apartment with the exclusive rights to use Two covered car park bearing no. 13-E and 14-E at Basement Area and proportionate undivided share admeasuring area 397.49 Sq. ft in common area and facilities such as stairway, landing, club house etc.
(The said Apartment has RCC Roofing, Vitrified Flooring with Wooden Doors and Aluminum Windows)

Date: 9/12/2021
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- K Raghu Prasad
9923002312
Authorized Officer

The bodies of two out of the five people, who were feared drowned, have been fished out of Beeraperu stream near Sangam town in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh, on Saturday.

SAVING WESTERN GHATS CRUCIAL IN CLIMATE CHANGE FIGHT

AMIT S UPADHYE AND BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru, Hubballi

AT a time when the impact of climate change is so clear in terms of flash floods, landslides and change in rainfall patterns, the Karnataka government has decided to do away with the Dr Kasturirangan report on Western Ghats. This has drawn sharp criticism from environmental activists who see it as a big dent to the efforts to save the sensitive Malnad region.

The Dr Kasturirangan report, submitted to the government in 2013-14, was said to be a diluted version of the Dr Madhav Gadgil report. Experts feel that the State and Union Governments are playing politics with the implementation of these reports. "As the Central government is still dilly-dallying and not taking a firm stand on implementation of the report, it is seeking objections from the states to take a decision and reject it," activists rue.

The High Level Working Group, headed by Dr Kasturirangan, an eminent space scientist and former ISRO chairman, was constituted to review the recommendations made by the committee headed by Prof Gadgil. The most important recommendation of Dr Kasturirangan report is that 37% of the Western Ghats are to be notified as Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA), while the remaining 63% be designated as 'cultural landscape' excluded from the ESA to facilitate sustainable development.

The Union Ministry of Environment & Forests accepted this recommendation and issued four draft notifications under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 with modifications covering only 37% of natural landscape.

The Western Ghats, which has been accorded the status of a biodiversity hotspot by the United Nations, is in dire need of protection even as several developmental projects are queued up, threatening the ecosystem. Rejection of reports like Dr Kasturirangan's is only expected to aggravate the damage being caused to the Western Ghats in Karnataka and neighbouring states.

While Kerala is planning to adopt some of the recommendations made in the report, Karnataka rejecting it is being viewed as the first step towards diluting existing protection laws covering the Western Ghats. Activists point out that this shows how politicians have managed to misguide the masses. They say people living in the Ghats will be evicted and displaced although Dr Kasturirangan's report speaks of evicting the forest encroachment itself.

Those backing the Kasturirangan report say the government must study the background of those opposing the report as they are allegedly indulging in forest encroachments. According to former Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, B K Singh, the legislature and politicians have campaigned against both the reports and have indulged in fearmongering among the communities.

"Misinformation is spread saying the recommendations will block all development activities in the natural areas. The Kasturirangan report provides for protection of existing forests and prevents any non-forestry use of these areas. The recommendations can be achieved if forest laws are followed in letter and spirit. That is how the CM is perfectly justified in rejecting it. Regarding construction of large dams, the Kasturirangan report has diluted Gadgil's recommendation of prohibiting them and has said that it can be allowed subject to proper ecological water flow," Singh says.

Senior wildlife conservationist and trustee of Wildlife First, Praveen Bhargav, says that recognising the huge importance of protecting this irreplaceable ecosystem, former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee first

BIG PICTURE

took a visionary decision to protect the Western Ghats.

"The Union Government has notified an area of 56,825 sq km across six states as the Western Ghats ESA based on the recommendations of the Kasturirangan committee. The notification includes only 1,533 villages adjacent to forests and not entire districts, taluks or hoblis. There is absolutely no question of people losing their legally owned lands located in the identified villages or stoppage of their bona fide agricultural/horticultural activities or restriction of movement within the identified villages. The State Government, it appears, is tragically bowing to the misinformation campaign of vested interests and stalling the final notification," Bhargav adds.

"The Western Ghats is the main water source for South India. It must be protected at any cost. The rejection of the Kasturirangan report will only pave the way for altering the existing laws," says Dinesh Holla, an activist and founder of Sahyadri Sanchaya.

IN KERALA

Despite repeated indications of ecosystem degradation in the form of yearly landslides and floods, the Kerala government is still in pursuit of diluting the implementation of strategies and guidelines put forth in the Kasturirangan report. The Wayanad Prakruthi Samrakshana Samithi and other environmental organisations in Kerala strongly criticise and disapprove of this mode of action by the government.

The guidelines issued by the Prof Gadgil committee were met with a huge opposition due to its supposedly stringent suggestions. The Kasturirangan panel was constituted to revisit those guidelines. Former Kerala Biodiversity Board chairman Dr Oommen V Oommen had forwarded the edited Kasturirangan guidelines to the Environment ministry. The Forest and Environment Minister had replied to this document stating his reluctance in accepting the suggested changes as it is.

Senior environmentalist N Badusha from Wayanad Prakruthi Samrakshana Samithi notes that it was an organised misinformation campaign by local politicians to create fear among the forest area dwellers about the reports. "In fact, we have been demanding to implement several recommendations of the Gadgil report. The Kerala government is planning to retain some of the recommendations from both the reports. Sadly, many of those opposing the report have never even read it," he adds.

"We feel that the Western Ghats, the state of Kerala and its inhabitants will be pushed to peril unless the Kasturirangan report is implemented in full. Considering the action from the Central Government to finalise the eco-sensitive zone in Western Ghats, our approach is that the recommendations of the Prof Gadgil report should be implemented, rather than the Kasturirangan report.

"The approach of the Gadgil report, through its emphasis on involving gram sabhas to finalise the environmentally sensitive zones at local level, looks at people's participation in the conservation. The Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel report was looking at the total environmental sustainability of the Western Ghats, while the Kasturirangan report demarcated cultural and natural landscape separately. There were no suggestions put forward for people's action towards conservation. In Kerala, the Oommen V Oommen committee report further diluted the area and suggested only marginal areas as ESZ," says Badusha.

DECODING THE KASTURIRANGAN REPORT

Primarily, the red list includes ban on mining and stone quarrying, setting up of thermal power plants, building and construction projects of 20,000 sqmt and above, township and development projects with an area of 50 hectares and above and or with built-up area of

1,50,000 sqmt and above

Any activity listed in the orange category will be regulated and can be taken up, but with appropriate permissions. All agricultural and horticultural activities, including plantation crops, are in the green category and fully permissible

Local business and commercial activities including home stays, tea or coffee processing, curing, roasting and grinding, commercial complex, shops, manufacture of cement products like blocks, pipes, bricks and roofing tiles and wood furniture units are in the green category and will continue without any new restrictions

None of the state governments have accepted the report yet. We have our own forest laws. The report is for long-term ecological protection and the state governments are discussing it

— Sanjai Mohan, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests

I have submitted my report. Selection and implementation is left for the politicians. I had submitted it when I was working with the State Election Commission and it is better not to compare the two reports. One should see the constitution of the committee and then understand what it implements. It is now for them to act

— Dr K KASTURIRANGAN

The report which I had submitted gave more importance and power to the locals. It was democratic. The Central and state governments have some pretensions not to protect Western Ghats, and vested interests are very much able to dilute protection measures. Forest and environmental laws are not sufficient by themselves, democratic decentralisation is required

— Prof MADHAV GADGIL

Indian Air Force officers pay their last respects to Lance Naik B Sai Teja, who was killed in a helicopter crash, along with CDS General Bipin Rawat and 11 others recently, at Yelahaka Air Force Station in Bengaluru on Saturday | SHRIRAM BN

Lance Naik Teja's remains to be taken to hometown from B'luru

ENS @Bengaluru

OFFICERS of the Indian Air Force and Paramilitary Forces on Saturday paid their last respects to Lance Naik Boggala Sai Teja, who lost his life in the Mi-17 V5 helicopter crash at Coonoor on December 8, along with Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat, his wife and 10 other military officials.

The IAF brought the Lance Naik's mortal remains from Sulur Air Base to Yelahanka Air Force Station, where they were kept for a while and honoured, before being shifted to the Air Force Command Hospital on Old Airport Road later.

Survivor critical

According to sources, the condition of Group Captain Varun Singh, the sole survivor of the crash, continues to be critical, while he is stable.

The mortal remains reached the air base by a special aircraft around 12.30 pm. Senior officers paid their respects with full military honours to the brave soldier.

The body will be handed over to his family in Andhra Pradesh on Sunday, with the mortal remains being carried in a special ambulance to his hometown, Madanapalle, by road.

Sai Teja is survived by his wife Symala, two children - son Mokshagna (5) and daughter Darshini (2) - and his parents. He had joined the Army through a recruitment drive in Guntur in 2012, and and was appointed Personal Security Officer to Gen Rawat earlier this year.

Meanwhile, the Andhra Pradesh government has announced an ex-gratia of Rs 50 lakh for the soldier's family.

Woman not a category but gender, says Karnataka HC

ENS @Bengaluru

THE woman is not a category, but a gender, while a category is either 'General' or 'BCA' (Backward Classes), said the Karnataka High Court, disagreeing with the arguments of a petitioners' counsel for equating the woman to a category.

Justice M Nagaprasanna made the observation, dismissing a petition filed by Abdulla Khan and five others, who questioned a state government notification of November 25, 2021 announcing reservation for the Sira City Municipal Council.

On the arguments of the petitioners that Ward No. 19 was reserved for the woman category in 2013 and it is again reserved for the woman category in 2021 and it amounts to a repetition of reservation, the court observed that this contention is unacceptable.

"In earlier elections what was reserved qua Ward No.19 was General (Woman) and now it is BCA (Woman). If the woman is not a category, the categories that are reserved then and now are General and 'BCA' (Woman)', which are different," the court said.

TTD to construct third ghat road to Tirumala

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Tirumala

THE Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams Trust Board, which met here on Saturday, decided to construct the third ghat road to the hill shrine from Railway Kodur in Kadapa district. It was also decided to allow Vaikunta or Uttara Dwara Darshanam

for 10 days from January 13, 2022 to mark Vaikunta Ekadasi. The TTD proposed to increase issuance of darshan tickets from the new year.

Speaking after the board meeting, TTD Chairman YV Subba Reddy said the existing

trekking path from Kadapa side, known as Annamayya route, would be developed as the third ghat road to Tirumala. At present, Alipiri and Srivari Mettu routes are being used by pedestrian pilgrims to reach Tirumala. Subba Reddy said, "Vaikunta Dwara Darshanam would be provided to devotees of SC, ST, BC and fishermen's colonies as it was done during Tirumala Brahmotsavams."

TTD Executive Officer KS Jawahar Reddy would approach the State government and the Centre seeking relaxation of Covid-19 norms to enable the temple authorities to increase the issuance of free-darshan tokens and resume some of the Arjitha Sevas,

which were suspended from March 12, 2020 in view of the pandemic, he said.

The Srivari Mettu route, which was badly damaged in recent floods, would be repaired at a cost of ₹3.6 crore. The repair works of the Tirupati-Tirumala ghat road would be undertaken with ₹3.95 crore. Seven temples, which were completely damaged in Cheyyeru flash floods in Kadapa following a breach to the Annamayya project bund would be renovated by the TTD.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, KHORDHA (R&B) CIRCLE, KHORDHA
WORKS DEPARTMENT
Tender call Notice
E-mail: rbcirclekhurda@gmail.com
Bid Identification No. CCE-Khordha (R&B) Circle-11/2021-22 Memo No - 1730 Dt. 07.12.2021

B-778: The Chief Construction Engineer, Khordha (R&B) Circle, Khordha on behalf of Governor of Odisha inviting percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE form eligible contractors for Building works as detailed in the table below:

1. Nature of Work	:	Building Works
2. No of Work	:	2 Nos
3. Tender Cost	:	Rs.10000.00 (On-Line)
4. Class of Contractor	:	B Class and A Class
5. Available of Bid document in the Website	:	From 10.00 AM of Dt. 17.12.2021 to 05.00 PM of Dt. 29.12.2021
6. Last Date of receipt of tender	:	Dt.29.12.2021 up to 5.00 PM
7. Date of opening of Bid	:	Dt. 30.12.2021 at 11.30 AM

8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the Website: https://tenderodisha.gov.in . Any Addendum / Corrigendum / Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer, Khordha (R&B) Circle, Khordha OIPR-34127/11/0016/2122

No.SPG-01/H&T/2017(Pt.I)
GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR
DIRECTORATE OF HANDLOOMS & TEXTILES
LAMPHEL, IMPHAL, MANIPUR

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

For and on behalf of the Governor of Manipur, bids are invited in two bid systems through online mode only on SPP Portal for selection of a consultancy firm in accordance with the Terms of Reference specified in the RFP document for preparation of feasibility report, viability report, execution and monitoring of Manipur Spinning Mill. The Department proposes to engage a reputed consulting firm with relevant expertise and experience to assist it to set up a Spinning Mill in Manipur.

2. The broad objective of the study of feasibility for setting up of Spinning Mills in Manipur is to evaluate the viability covering different parameters of entire value chain of textiles from raw material to marketing of finished products of the mills. This will establish a basic potential scope of Spinning Mills.

3. The Department shall select a Firm as per the procedure described in the Request for Proposal (RFP) which may be downloaded from https://manipurtenders.gov.in / and on this Departmment's websites www.dhtmanipur.mn.gov.in. You are invited to submit e-proposals (Technical Bid and Financial Bid) on SPP portal (online https://manipurtenders.gov.in) as per Key dates in two bid system: Part-I Technical Bid and Part-II Financial Bid.

4. The detailed instructions for bidders may be read before uploading the proposal online. It is intimated that the Consultant will be selected as per procedures described in the RFP document and subject to approval of the competent authority.

5. Interested Applicants should furnish / upload scanned copies of all documents preferablly in "pdf" Format. The financial bids are to be uploaded only in the prescribed formats and bid of any firm which discloses any pricing information in technical bid stage will be summarily rejected without assigning any reasons whatsoever. The instructions regarding online bid submission are at Appendix of RFP. Physical bids shall not be accepted.

6. Please note that the Department reserves the right to accept or reject all or any of the bids without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Govt wants to use varsities to carry out political agenda: Guv

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@T'Puram

A day after Governor **Arif Mohammed Khan**'s letter to Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan expressing his willingness to relinquish the post of chancellor rocked the state, the former on Saturday went public with his criticism of the state government. The governor's continued offensive prompted the government to go on the back foot, with a general consensus emerging in the ruling establishment that the issue should be sorted out by the Chief Minister himself.

Speaking to reporters in Delhi, the Governor minced no words while stating that he will not allow political interference in the functioning of universities.

"They want to use the universities to carry out their political agenda. I don't want to be used for that purpose. If I am chancellor, I will not let that happen," the Governor said.

Khan said he did not want a confrontation with the government on the issue and it was the reason that prompted him to ask the chief minister to take over the role of chancellor.

"I don't want to pursue any course of conflict with the government," he said.

Khan also openly admitted that the reappointment of Gopinath Ravindran as vice-chancellor of Kannur University was a result of pressure exerted by the government.

The Governor said he tried his best to save the autonomy of the universities.

They want to use the universities to carry out their political agenda. I don't want to be used for that purpose. If I am chancellor, I will not let that happen

Arif Mohammed Khan, Governor, Kerala

"The keyboard is my journal" — Pharrell Williams

COST OF RICH WORLD HYPOCRISY ON VAX WAIVERS

A confluence of consequences is staring at the world.

On Friday, the UK reported over 58,000 COVID-19 cases, the largest number of single day cases since January. In the US, the New York Governor imposed a statewide mask mandate. Banks in New York and London are asking employees to work from home. In Germany, the outgoing chancellor Angela Merkel and her successor Olaf Scholz announced a ban on unvaccinated people from accessing all but the most essential businesses. Austria is moving for compulsory vaccination.

The phraseology of lockdowns is back in circulation. The discovery of the Omicron variant last month triggered a flow of pious words. Predictably, leaders from the rich world chanted the need to improve access to vaccines. Words, though, are not enough. Honoré de Balzac, the French novelist known for his unfettered views on society, observed '*Qui parle trop veut tromper*' or 'whoever talks too much wants to deceive'. The chasm between the talk and walk reeks of hypocrisy.

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR

Author of The Gated Republic, Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution, and Accidental India

shankkar.aiyar@gmail.com

As early as in October 2020, India and South Africa moved the WTO seeking a temporary waiver from certain provisions of the TRIPS Agreement (patents, trade secrets, copyright and industrial designs) for the containment, prevention and treatment of COVID-19. WTO rules call for unanimous decisions and the proposal backed by more than 100 countries has barely moved. The virus, meanwhile, has moved freely via variants infecting over 270 million, causing over 5.2 million deaths.

The case for vaccine equity has been eloquently articulated by WTO Director General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala. "The issue of equitable access to vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics is both the moral and economic issue of our time." The causal relationship between vaccine access, the spread of the virus and loss of lives and livelihoods is established beyond doubt. The circumstance and the spectre though have yet to persuade the opponents.

The strongest opposition to vaccine waivers is from the European Union, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, home to the largest pharma companies in the world. The EU stance is not deterred by appeals by 388 Members of European Parliament and national parliaments or by 375 trade unions. The US supported a temporary waiver but failed to show up with detailing. The stance of the rich nations is in stark contrast to that of countries such as India and Russia — both have offered waivers on their vaccines.

The UK, for instance, has argued that while the waiver proposal presents "the international IP system is a barrier when we still do not think that we have seen evidence of that being the case." Effectively, the burden of proof — for and against — has been parked in the class wars of WTO.

While that is debated, denial has worsened access. Money and facts speak for themselves. The magnitude of inequity is illustrated by data from the Duke Global Health Innovation Center. The UK can vaccinate 323 per cent of its population, the EU 339 per cent of its population, and the US 279 per cent of its population. The African Union, in contrast, has barely enough vaccines to cover a fifth of its population.

The crux of the EU opposition is about returns. At the WTO, the EU has argued that intellectual property rights represent value and are "the legal guarantee for potential returns on investment in innovation". It bears mention here that Pfizer is forecast to earn over $36 billion from vaccine sales in 2021 and Moderna around $18 billion.

Be that as it may, the debate is not about the merits of what qualifies adequate returns nor is it about denying rewards for innovation. It is about making available the means to tackle the pandemic. The challenge before the rich countries is to design public policy to absorb the cost of these rewards — through means such as subvention, tax credits or acceptable mechanisms. Lessons learnt from enabling access to HIV vaccines may be useful.

The consequence of rising infections and the cost of managing the economic destruction is manifest in data. In Europe, interest rates are at negative, at -0.5 per cent and inflation is above 5 per cent. Effectively, people are paying to park money even as its value is eroding. In the UK, inflation touched a 39 year high of 6.8 per cent and its economy slowed to a no-growth crawl. Across the Atlantic, on Friday, the United States reported consumer inflation not seen since 1980. The G7 central bankers must now worry about high growth low growth scenarios.

The reality streaming out of developed economies holds instructive lessons. Clearly, the strategy of printing out of a demand slump is governed by the statute of limitations. Costs do catch up — and will rise as the US Federal Reserve pivots from its easy money stance. Secondly, services account for two-thirds of the developed world GDP and stimulus is not enough to revive the face-to-face economy locked down by fear. Crucially, dole cheques may revive demand at home but cannot address supply chain issues in a globalised interdependent world unless infection growth is contained.

The context demands a review of the stance on vaccine waivers. It is useful to remember that the price paid in terms of erosion of economic output will be far greater than the cost of enabling vaccine access. Effectively, no one is safe until everyone is safe.

TOO MANY VIP DEATHS, SOMETHING AMISS?

POINT OF VIEW

T J S GEORGE

WHY do so many of our VIPs die in accidents? No one will say that murderous groups are plotting behind the scenes. Almost all the accidents that killed our leaders were truly accidents. Could it be that our planes and choppers suffer from poor maintenance? They are said to be in the best of conditions, maintained by the best of experts. Are there other factors unbeknown to the general public?

Security experts have practices and conventions based on what they have learned from experience. The manual they are asked to follow has several chapters. One of them, Chapter XXVI, deals with security arrangements for VIPs. It covers all possible problems. A typical section deals with plans "to ensure that terrorist/extremist/fundamentalist elements do not gain access to the VIP." Tactical wisdom is underlined. The manual emphasises that "the best arrangements are those where there is the least show of police force in uniform and yet full protection to the VIP is ensured... and there is no resentment of any kind in the public regarding the arrangements made by the authorities."

The best laid strategies could not save Sanjay Gandhi or the popular Mohan Kumaramangalam. Sanjay perhaps invited the tragedy with his love for mid-air stunts going all wrong. The crash that killed Kumaramangalam was so devastating that his body could be identified only by the Parker pen and a hearing aid he wore.

Very different was the case of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Rajasekhara Reddy whose helicopter crashed into a forest in 2009. (On hearing the news, 122 people in the state died, most of them by suicide and some by the shock leading to heart attacks.) A month after the disaster, investigations could not unearth any clue as to what happened. Simultaneous inquiries were ordered by the state and central governments, but they too failed to find any pointers.

Perhaps, the most sensational air disaster involving VIPs was the one that killed Madhavrao Scindia in 2001. It was a small (10-seater) private plane. It was raining heavily that day and experts had advised Scindia not to take to the skies. The royal scion trusted his own judgement – and perished, along with seven others in the plane, four of them journalists.

Putting several VIPs in the same flight is not done, as per security manuals. The tragedy that killed armed forces chief General Bipin Rawat had his wife and some other top officials in the chopper. Technically, this was a security lapse. That must be why efforts were made to explain that Rawat's wife had an official status as well; she was President of the Army Wives Welfare Association, the largest NGO in the country. She was described as "a catalyst in empowering army wives". The defence forces will miss her as much as they miss General Rawat.

Half a dozen helicopter crashes have occurred claiming precious lives. There must be something in our chopper fleet that calls for attention. Topics like military equipment and their management are, of course, out of bounds to the lay public.

Our armed forces are a major element in disaster management. The role they played when floods hit Kerala in 2018 won popular applause in a big way. As many as 11 lakh people were evacuated from Odisha's coastal areas in less than 24 hours when a cyclone hit the region. They have carried out similar save-and-rescue operations in neighbouring countries as well. They were there when floods hit Sri Lanka last year and an earthquake shook Nepal. Their work when tsunami hit the region in 2004 will never be forgotten.

Captain Narayana Murthy is a good example of the soldier's spirit. He was involved in some historic events like Goa Liberation in 1961 and the conflict with China the following year. After retirement, he joined the Airports Authority and played a central role in the evacuation of Indians from the Gulf region in 1990, still described as "the largest evacuation effort in the history of civil aviation." He is past 84 now. But he can't sit idle. So he is out in the busy streets working as a voluntary traffic warden. "I am still fighting," is how he puts it.

But the fighters who lost their lives fighting are in a class of their own. Far back in 1963, two lieutenant-generals, an air vice marshal, a major general, a brigadier and flight lieutenant were lost in a helicopter crash in Poonch district in Jammu. Half a dozen helicopter crashes have occurred claiming precious lives. There must be something in our chopper fleet that calls for attention. Topics like military equipment and their management are, of course, out of bounds to the lay public. But all citizens are concerned about our military's strength as well as our men's safety. And the feeling persists that accidents claiming military lives are unacceptably high. There's something amiss somewhere.

STOP CAPITAL DRAIN WITH BETTER OPPORTUNITIES AT HOME

POWER & POLITICS

PRABHU CHAWLA

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Follow him on Twitter @PrabhuChawla

IN 1025, the great Tamil emperor Rajendra Chola I was the first Indian ruler to take his forces beyond the frontiers of *Bharatvarsha*. He expanded its borders by invading and subjugating most of Southeast Asia including Sri Lanka, Maldives, Malasiya, Southern Thailand and Indonesia. He extracted tributes from the kingdoms of Thailand and Khmer-ruled Cambodia. The largest Hindu temple in the world is at Angkor Wat in Cambodia. In 1893, another emperor of the soul, Swami Vivekananda made a historical speech at World's Parliament of Religions and introduced Hinduism to America and played a significant role in spreading Vedanta and Yoga in the West.

Centuries before the Chola empire went global, Indian spices, which were traded in the great markets of the world, commanded prices equal to that of gold, perhaps more. As a political, intellectual, religious and economic force, India exerted global influence. She was the golden bird whose feathers were plucked by plunderers such as the Arabs, Moguls, French, Portuguese, Dutch and the British who landed as traders and became expansionist rulers.

Now, Indians are leaving the country in droves, taking with them intellectual and economic capital. During the past five years over six lakh Indians have surrendered their passports, the highest ever since Independence. Recently, in a response to a question in the Lok Sabha, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityananda Rai disclosed till September this year, over 1.11 lakh Indians have given up their Indian passports. He, however, didn't offer any explanation for the sudden spurt in Indians finding their homeland worthless.

Is this 21st century migration propelled by the desire for more wealth or is it a brain drain seeking success on the scale unavailable at home? Is GenM (Money Owners) no longer proud of Brand Bharat? India is growing at the highest rate. It has strong leadership and political stability. It is a dream market for global companies. Above all, it has an exceedingly business friendly government and environment. Ironically, the farewell crowd find the Indian system stifling, environmentally unhealthy and socially oppressive. Naturally, it is the middle class and neo rich who find life in India unattractive. According to published reports by various agencies, over two percent of Indian millionaires have chosen another country to do business and lead a better life. What has surprised India watchers is the continued interest of Indians abandoning their birth place even during the pandemic.

During the past two years, Canada, Singapore, England, Australia have seen the number of inquiries for permanent residency growing by over 60 per cent. Caste and poverty ground the majority of Indians from the benefits of education and prosperity. Indian intellectuals and professionals have headed for greener pastures in the West for decades. In the US, about 38 per cent of doctors, 36 per cent of NASA employees, 34 per cent of Microsoft work force and 28 per cent of IBM employees are Indians. Over a dozen Indian born technocrats and PIOs handle around 20 per cent of American wealth. Corporate stars like **Twitter CEO Parag Agrawal**, Google CEO Sundar Pichai, Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella, Adobe CEO Shantanu Narayen, Arista Networks CEO Jayshree Ullal, VMware CEO Rangarajan Raghuram, IBM CEO Arvind Krishna, MasterCard executive chairman Ajaypal Singh Banga are giants in their field.

Many Western academic and financial institutions are now run by Indians. But not all of them left India as economic, social or political dissenters. Indian corporates, senior civil servants and rich and famous Indians have been sending their children to study aboard for ages, spending over nine billion dollars annually. Most of these youngsters chose to stay back. Ironically, they are ones who contribute to the idea of India.

It has almost become a practice among wealthy Indian families to settle a member abroad. The exodus is spearheaded by people who earned both name and fame in India. Almost every top Indian industrialist has set up a parallel business abroad which is managed by their offspring. There is hardly a senior IAS, IFS or military official, serving or retired, whose progeny hasn't acquired a green card, or permanent residency abroad. Most of them have renounced their Indian citizenship. Additionally, liberal foreign exchange remittance regimes have allowed them to own houses in foreign lands.

Of late, after Singapore, Dubai has become the most sought-after second destination for rich Indian businesspersons. Market mercenaries the world over have defined the new movement of manpower and money as an investment migratory industry. But in India's case, it is one-way traffic. Investment is definitely flowing into India while the owners who invest for profit and expansion prefer lifestyles abroad.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was aware of the dangers posed by the escalating velocity of the brain drain. At the 14th edition of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2017, billed as the largest ever gathering of the Indian diaspora, he had said, "During a discussion on brain drain before I became the chief minister of Gujarat, I used to wonder if all the good brains in the country emigrate, then is the country left with only fools? But today I can say with confidence that because of the steps taken by our government, we are changing brain drain into brain gain." Earlier, Manmohan Singh had expressed similar optimism. The decampment had slowed down during the past two decades. There is no agreement on the current reasons for the outflow of capital from India. Officials trot out the rationale that it is because of people like Vijay Mallya, Mehul Choksi and Nirav Modi who have tainted business records or are afraid of the wrath of agencies.

Modi's detractors allege middle class industrialists are facing excessive interrogation and raids. Indian business houses find the judiciary and the State more intrusive than before. There are others who analyse that Indians are seeking a credible and safe alternative option to not only survive but also to thrive. With many financial institutions including banks either collapsing or underperforming, most citizens are skeptical about the safety of their wealth at home.

As a developing nation with just 75 years of decolonised freedom, India hasn't evolved herself into a perfect model habitat of enterprise. Its diversity, roots and traditions were binding its people together for aeons. Ironically, India is seen as the country of tomorrow by many leading nations. Yet, the deadly duo of pessimistic elements and an indifferent establishment have failed to market the concept of a powerful New India in the making. India's loss is a massive gain for other countries. The old saying goes that when you say goodbye, you die a little. For Indians who acquire foreign passports, it means you can live in plenty.

QUOTE CORNER

We are standing on the rubble of the world that was, and we must have the foresight and courage to imagine what might happen if we don't act now, and instead, create the world as it should be – more compassionate, more equal, more sustainable.

Maria Ressa, journalist and Nobel Prize laureate

There was no one who did more for Netanyahu than me. There was no one who did for Israel more than I did. And the first person to run to greet Joe Biden was Netanyahu. And not only did he congratulate him – he did it in a video.

Donald Trump, former US president

My husband and I ... had been out to eat, been shopping in town. I should have used better judgment and double-checked the guidance given to me. I am very sorry for not understanding that I needed to do that.

Sanna Marin, Finland Prime Minister

MAILBAG WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Carlsen's impressive record

Magnus Carlsen deserves encomiums on winning his fifth World title with three games to spare. The magnificent Norwegian Grandmaster demolished Russian Ian Nepomniachtchi in 49 moves to take the 11th game of their best-of-14 World chess championship match in Dubai. The champion's fourth victory – second with black – saw the final score read 7.5-3.5. This was the fourth time Carlsen defended the World title he first won from Viswanathan Anand in 2013. Bravo!

N J Ravi Chander, Bengaluru

Bitter past, uneasy present

Retired Diplomat Nirupama Rao's latest book *The Fractured Himalaya – India Tibet China 1949 to '62* throws light on the acrimonious past and the present uneasy relationship between India and China when Tibet was trampled upon by belligerent China. Both the then PM Jawaharlal Nehru and Defence Minister Krishna Menon sensed threat from China but did not grapple with the situation diplomatically and militarily out of sheer insouciance and that led to Indo-China war in 1961. Nehru's speech in Parliament that not even a blade grass could grow in Himalayan terrain was myopic and caused unpalatable repercussion. The only trade off INC gained was the vertical split in Communist Party of India and the Congress was in power between 1947 and '77 and wielded enormous power with an almost feeble opposition. It is cumbersome for India to devise her geopolitical strategy with utmost caution a la once bitten twice shy mode.

Venkat Desikan, Chennai

Non-veg ban has religious hue

The High Court of Gujarat has rightly come down heavily on some city administrations in Gujarat over the ban on the sale of non-vegetarian food by street vendors citing various and extraneous reasons although the real reasons were to target certain religions and communities who are generally non-vegetarians by choice and by restricting their choice these local bodies wanted to bring their own thinking in the matter to prevail against constitutional and individual rights to carry on any trade or profession legally.

V Padmanabhan, Bengaluru

Army should stay apolitical

When General Rawat was promoted as COAS, he superseded some who were senior to him. It is the prerogative of the cabinet, but usually not done unless there are valid reasons. As such, it was considered by some as a political move and an attempt to politicise the army which should be apolitical. Later, his elevation to CDS creating a non-existent position by an executive order did add some substance to the murmur of the detractors. However, the General conducted himself well during his tenure as COAS and then as CDS, and did not give any impression of political leaning.

Capt Raju Mathai, Kochi

Guv critical of Pinarayi

With reference to '*Guv to CM: Amend acts, be varsities' chancellor*' (December 11), it is sharp sarcasm, and critical observation by Governor Arif Mohammed Khan – who is also the chancellor of universities – against CM Pinarayi Vijayan that he might amend the Acts of universities and assume the chancellorship himself so that he can carry out his political objectives. Arif Mohammed Khan is upset by the prevalence of overt politicisation of students in Kerala's intuitions and nepotism in appointments to universities by the government.

K V Raghuram, Wayanad

Debate over Omicron

Dr Angelique Coetzee, Chairperson, South African Medical Association, has said that Omicron patients presented very different symptoms as compared to those affected by Delta variant. "I have seen nearly 600 patients with Delta variant and the symptoms mainly were fever, sore throat, cough, loss of smell and taste, and low saturation. But in Omicron, none of these exist. It is manly body-ache, severe headache, mylagia and fatigue."

M S Rao, Bengaluru

THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Derek O'Brien @derekobrienmp
Even as the Union govt continues to mock #Parliament, Oppn MPs still use all legit methods to hold the govt accountable

Ashok Gehlot @ashokgehlot51
Rally for beginning of collapse of NDA govt will be held tomorrow. Message of "Inflation hatao maha rally" will go across the country

Piyush Goyal @PiyushGoyal
Respect, Convenience and Fair Price of MSP, Government is working continuously in the interest of farmers. #MSPHaiMSPRahega

Preparation underway for the mega rally to be held by Congress in Jaipur's Vidyadhar Nagar Stadium | PTI

Rebranding Rahul prominent in Cong's Rajasthan rally plan

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

AHEAD of the Assembly elections in five states, the Congress is trying to make inflation a major poll issue. Keeping this in mind, the party is organising on Sunday a national rally in Jaipur, which will be attended by party chief Sonia Gandhi, former chief Rahul Gandhi, general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Congress MPs, AICC officials, and former Union ministers.

Although the rally is projected to be against the NDA government at the Centre, it is believed to have two major objectives — to showcase Congress as the biggest force in the Opposition and to present Rahul Gandhi as the biggest leader of the Opposition.

The rally happens at a time when the leadership of Congress in the UPA and its status as the single largest opposition party are being challenged, that too from the constituent parties of UPA and regional parties. With West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee virtually challenging the Congress leadership of the UPA, the anti-inflation rally in Jaipur is aimed at proving that the real strength and leadership ability of the opposition camp is still with the Congress. Along with this, the rally will project Rahul Gandhi as capable of challenging Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Congress wants to re-establish 'Brand Rahul' once again through the mega show on Sunday.

The rally will also decide the party's internal political line along with Congress's fight against the Centre. Rahul has been kept as the focal point of the rally to be held at Vidhyadhar Nagar Stadium in Jaipur. Banners, posters and huge hoardings, Rahul has been highlighted more than Congress President Sonia Gandhi. His photos are bigger than those of the Congress president. Big cut-outs of his have also sprung up at the venue.

According to sources, leaders are trying to build a consensus to project Rahul as the national president of the party — a post he had given up after the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. Dissident leaders, especially the G-23, had raised questions on the functioning of the organisation and election of the national president. Now, branding of Rahul is being done just before the organisational elections.

Experts believe that it is not easy to mobilise crowds in Delhi. That's why Rajasthan is deemed as a more favourable venue. After the cabinet expansion, the ongoing conflict between Ashok Gehlot and Sachin Pilot has settled down in Rajasthan. So the responsibility of staging a successful rally rests on CM Gehlot.

Covid situation in 7 states remains cause of concern: Health ministry

Eight districts in 3 states/UTs report positivity rate of above 10%, Centre advises caution

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Centre is not letting its guard down in the fight against Covid-19. The health ministry is worried about the test positivity rate in seven states. They have districts where this is between 5% to 10%. There are three states with districts with a positivity rate of over 10%.

Drawing attention towards three states, the Centre has asked them to maintain strict watch on the situation with focussed district-level measures for containment of clusters of new cases. In a letter to states and UTs, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan said 19 districts in Kerala, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Puducherry, Manipur, West Bengal and Nagaland have been reporting positivity rates between 5% and 10% in the last two weeks. Positivity rate has been more than 10% in eight districts in Mizoram, Kerala and Sikkim in the last two weeks.

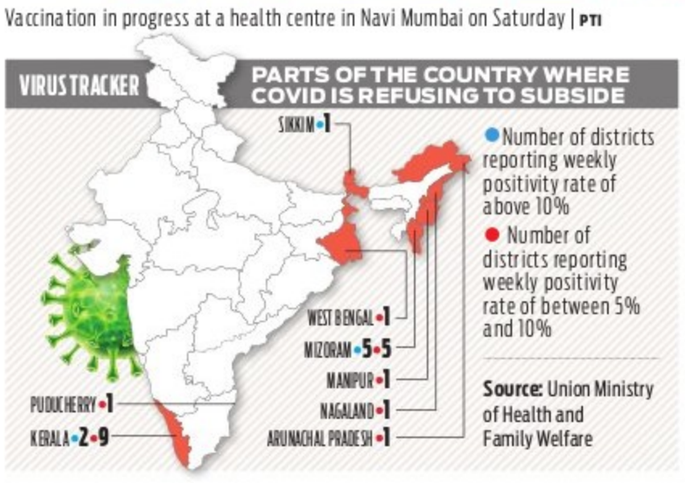
"These 27 districts need to be monitored very closely," Bhushan said. He said it is essential for these states and UTs to maintain vigil on the situation with focussed district-level measures for containment of clusters of new cases. "In case of any district reporting a surge in cases, or rise in positivity rates, intensive action and local containment as per the containment framework must be initiated."

"Strategic containment interventions in identified areas with test positivity rate of over 10% or over 60% bed occupancy on either two supported or ICU beds, include night curfews, restricting intermingling of people, prohibition of congregations (social, political, sports, entertainment, academic, cultural, religious, festival-related), curtailment of attendees in marriages and funerals or last rites, etc," he said.

Testing and surveillance interventions include ramping up testing and active case search, testing of influenza-like illness and severe acute respiratory infection cases through rapid antigean tests and retesting by RT-PCR of symptomatic negative rapid antigen tests.

"Strict adherence to Covid-appropriate behaviour at all places and at all times must also be enforced and monitored," Bhushan said. He said adequate advance information to the community, highlighting the need for stringent containment actions.

Vaccination in progress at a health centre in Navi Mumbai on Saturday | PTI


VIRUS TRACKER
PARTS OF THE COUNTRY WHERE COVID IS REFUSING TO SUBSIDE
SIKKIM • 1
WEST BENGAL • 1
MIZORAM • 5 • 5
MANIPUR • 1
NAGALAND • 1
ARUNACHAL PRADESH • 1
PUDUCHERRY • 1
KERALA • 2 • 9
Number of districts reporting weekly positivity rate of above 10%
Number of districts reporting weekly positivity rate of between 5% and 10%
Source: Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Maharashtra tops consumer case list

KANU SARDA @ New Delhi

MAHARASHTRA tops the list of states with maximum number of consumer cases filed. This is not only in the National Consumer Redressal Disputes Resolution (NCRDC), but also in the district consumer courts. Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Delhi follow in that order when it comes to filing consumer dispute cases.

The statute says that a consumer complaint may be disposed of as expeditiously as possible and an endeavour shall be made to take a decision within three to five months of receiving the complaint.

A look at the data pertaining to the national capital shows that the disposal rate of cases has been falling since 2018. It is getting increasingly bad to a point that no case has been disposed of in 2020-21. Naturally, this has led to a massive pendency of cases.

The Covid-19 pandemic can be blamed for the high non-disposal of cases in 2020-21. But then, in 2019 only 614 cases were disposed of. As a result, the disposal rate fell by 61 per cent. Since 2011, the pendency of cases has increased 2.5 times, when there were 6,335 cases pending in Delhi consumer forums. The pendency peaked in 2020 at 94 per cent.

In many cases, the amount spent on fighting a case in a consumer forum exceeds the amount litigants seek. Lack of infrastructure and manpower are other factors that hamper case disposals. There is an acute shortage of staff for judicial officers as well. For example, the Delhi State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission has only one member when it should have four.

According to data available with NCDRC, there are only 10 supporting staff members when there should be 15. So, there are five vacant slots.

The phenomenon of vacancies increasing steadily was also noticed by the Supreme Cour. Earlier this week, the apex court of the country directed all the states and Union Territories to fill up vacancies by January 2022.

BREAK-UP OF CASES PENDING AT NCDRC

STATE	2018	2019	2020	Total
NCDRC	8,992	7,800	3,134	19,926
Maharashtra	4,433	5,874	2,160	12,467
Uttar Pradesh	2,904	1,984	660	5,317
West Bengal	2,293	2,321	703	4,693
Delhi	2,357	1,864	472	4,693
Rajasthan	2,042	2,102	800	4,944
Tamil Nadu	863	809	208	1,880
Karnataka	1,876	2,003	1,298	5,177

Disposals dipping

The rate of disposal of these cases has not been very high in the last few years. Pandemic, lack of infrastructure/manpower and shortage of staff for judicial officers are among the reasons of low disposals

DRI REPORT

Pandemic saw rise in cigarette smuggling

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

CIGARETTES were among the most sought-after products smuggled into India during the coronavirus pandemic. That's because profit margins for them are high.

As air travel and cargo movements were affected, smugglers used diverse modus operandi to bring cigarettes illegally to India majorly from Dubai (UAE), Myanmar and Nepal, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has observed.

According to a report of the anti-smuggling intelligence agency, seizure of illegal cigarettes increased during the pandemic (2020-21) by nearly 20%. The agency confiscated smuggled cigarettes worth ₹76.95 crore. The value of total consignment impounded was ₹93.02 crore.

The report of the agency says smugglers used cover cargo in containerised sea cargo and trucks. It summarises that 65% of the total confiscated stock was from container concealment, 23% from vehicles, 5% from air cargo and 7% was town seizures. In the DRI's analysis, Dubai and Myanmar were the main sources of cigarettes smuggled into India.

In 2020-21, as per DRI statistics, 65% of smuggled products came from Dubai and 8% came from Myanmar. Just 1% was from Nepal. Source of 26% remain unknown.

According to The Tobacco Institute of India (TTII), illegal cigarette trade including smuggled products from abroad and locally manufactured tax-evaded cigarettes accounts for one-fourth of the cigarette industry in the country. India is considered the fourth-largest illegal cigarette market in the world.

Use of cryptocurrency for drug trafficking worries Parl committee

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Parliamentary Committee on Home Affairs has voiced concerns over the increasing use of digital currencies and darknet for drug trafficking. It also suggests the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to constitute a cyber-wing under the Narcotics Control Bureau. The panel's report comes when the introduction of the bill to regulate cryptocurrencies is awaited at the ongoing winter session of Parliament.

Darknet is an overlay network within the internet that is inaccessible to conventional search engines and requires special browsers to be accessed. Darknet is often used for pornography and illicit trade, as users are largely untraceable.

In a report submitted in Parliament on Friday, the panel said, "The committee expresses concern about the increasing use of cryptocurrencies and 'darknet' for drug trafficking. Further, technology is being leveraged by drug traffickers to maintain anonymity, making it difficult to track the movement of drugs."

The panel noted that steps are taken by NCB at the national and international level to contain drug trafficking in the country. But it emphased that more needs to be done.

"The committee recommends that MHA may advise NCB to establish a cyber-wing with an intelligence fusion centre for effective detection and investigation of drug trafficking cases involving cryptocurrencies and darknet at the earliest. The committee may be apprised about the progress made in this regard."

The MHA, in response, said a proposal for restructuring and expansion of NCB, including setting up of a dedicated cyber-wing, is under consideration. The MHA is in consultation with the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure).

Cryptocurrency and Regulation of Official Digital Currency Bill, 2021 has been listed for passage in the winter session. It seeks to create a framework for the creation of the official digital currency to be issued by RBI. It also seeks to prohibit private cryptocurrencies, but allows exceptions to promote the underlying technology of cryptocurrency and its uses.

Glyphosate ban sought

New Delhi: Swadeshi Jagran Manch, an affiliate of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, on Saturday submitted a list of signatures of over 2 lakh persons to the Union agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar, pressing for a ban on the use of glyphosate. A herbicide that controls broadleaf weeds and grasses, glyphosate has been declared carcinogenic by the International Agency for Research on Cancer.

Panel unhappy with disposal of public grievances

KUMAR VIKRAM @ New Delhi

IN their eagerness to dispose of public grievances, some government departments and ministries are not taking adequate steps to resolve them properly. Instead, they are taking short cuts like suggesting approaching another department or asking people to file again online.

This has been found in a recent parliamentary standing committee report which asks the ministries/departments to strictly comply with instructions. "The Committee notes that in their eagerness to comply with established instructions, grievances are increasingly being disposed of by some departments or organisations simply with the suggestion to approach another agency, sometimes a subordinate office," said a report of a parliamentary standing committee.

The panel noted that in some cases, grievances are re-sent to the agency against which the complaint is made. In others, online grievances are disposed of with the advice to take the grievance to the agency portal or complaint committee.

Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances is the nodal agency for policy initiatives on public grievances redressal and citizen-centric initiatives. There is a Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) — a 24x7 online portal to lodge grievances. The CPGRAMS interlinks 87 central ministries/departments and 37 states/UTs.

Data discloses CPGRAMS receives grievances in lakhs and a majority are disposed of. Disposal rate has been nearly 90% between 2016 and 2019. In 2019, total receipts was 17,35,438 and disposal was 14,95,898 at a rate of nearly 86%.

The committee observed that many grievances received on CPGRAMS are related to state governments. Some grievances revealed petitioners were asked to approach the state government and the grievance was disposed of rather than forwarded. "The Committee recommends CPGRAMS should play the role of facilitator for the public without impinging on the nature of federalism."

DARPG has instructed ministries and departments to give valid reasons for closure of grievances. It asked ministries/departments to comply with DARPG's instructions.

FACT CHECK

YEAR	Receipts	Disposal	Rate
2016	14,83,165	12,29,428	82.89%
2017	18,66,121	17,72,668	94.99%
2018	15,77,500	14,98,519	94.99%
2019	17,35,438	14,95,898	86.19%

Source: Parl standing committee report

BORDER ORDER

Punjab first state to move Supreme Court over BSF jurisdiction

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

ROW over the Centre's decision to extend the jurisdiction of the Border Security Force (BSF) to a 50 km belt along the international borders in Punjab, West Bengal and Assam has reached Supreme Court. The Punjab government has challenged the decision in the apex court. It is the first state to do so.

Filed under Article 131 of the Constitution, the suit was listed before the Registrar, who issued a notice to the Centre through the Attorney General. The next hearing would be after four weeks.

Under Article 131, the Supreme Court has original jurisdiction to deal with any dispute between the Centre and a state, the Centre and a state on one side and another state on the other side, and between two or more states.

The plea said the effect of the notification dated October 11, 2021, is that "it amounts to encroachment upon the powers and the role of the plaintiff-state of Punjab by the Centre, inasmuch as more than 80 per cent of the border districts, all the major towns and cities including all the district headquarters of Punjab fall within a 50 km area from the Indo-Pakistan international border".

Earlier, the BSF's jurisdiction was a 15 km belt along the border. In the area under their jurisdiction, BSF officers have powers of arrest, search and seizure on par with the state police. In its notification, the Ministry of Home Affairs had said, "The amendment effected on October 11, 2021 establishes uniformity in defining the area within which Border Security Force can operate as per its charter of duties and execution of its role and task of border guarding in its areas of deployment. This will enable improved operational effectiveness in curbing border crime.

BSF is now authorised to extend its jurisdiction in Punjab, West Bengal and Assam. In five North-eastern states (Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Nagaland, Meghalaya), the BSF's jurisdiction has been curtailed by 20 km while in Gujarat, it has been curtained by 30 km.

EXPRESS READ

Gita belongs to humanity: LS Speaker

New Delhi: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Saturday said the Bhagavad Gita does not belong to any particular language, region or religion but to the entire humanity. Birla was taking part in the International Gita Mahotsav. He was accompanied by Haryana CM ML Khattar and Assembly Speaker Gian Chand Gupta.

WINTER CHILL

Most places in Kashmir experienced the coldest night of the season so far as the minimum temperature plummeted several notches below the freezing point, officials said. It was -5 in Srinagar

5 COPS

FIRED FOR FRAMING BIZMAN IN A DRUG CASE IN MP

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	28	15	Mumbai	33	23
Bhopal	26	11	Panaji	32	25
Jaipur	24	9	Patna	25	9
Amritsar	21	5	Lucknow	24	12
Chennai	29	24	Port Blair	30	25
Kolkata	26	16	Imphal	24	8
Srinagar	10	-5	Chandigarh	26	6

Union Home Minister Amit Shah attends the foundation stone laying ceremony of Maa Umiya Temple in Ahmedabad | EXPRESS

BJP walking extra mile to bag more seats in Gujarat

Facing image dent over Covid handling, party takes up outreach events

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
@ Ahmedabad

AFTER its stellar victory in the local body elections in Gujarat early this year, the ruling BJP in the state is working hard to win more than 152 constituencies in the 182-seat Assembly in the next election.

The tenure of Gujarat Legislative Assembly is scheduled to end in February 2023. The previous Assembly elections were held in December 2017.

In the civic polls, the saffron party had almost obliterated the Congress by winning six municipal corporations, 75 out of 81 municipalities, 31 district panchayats and 196 out of 231 taluka panchayats. However, when it suffered a big jolt in West Bengal, the saffron party seems to have realised that only through hard work it can achieve another big consecutive victory in the west Indian state.

Another reason for the ruling party striving to achieve victory could be its poor performance during the Covid period.

Gujarat BJP chief CR Patil has been aggressively conducting public programmes for the last two months. Also, several coordination meetings are being held at the BJP's state headquarters, Kamalam. State ministers are also trying to resolve the issues of their ministries as quickly as possible. All these suggest that the party wants a record-breaking victory in the Assembly polls at any cost.

According to BJP spokesperson Yagnesh Dave, in the last two months Patil hosted 41 *Sneh Milans* (gatherings) and over 20 internal meetings.

Issues like the state's ineffective handling of the Covid pandemic, unemployment, farmers' issues and anti-incumbency are major challenges for the party and hence, the leadership has ordered ministers to "make people feel good". The party has also passed a message that the government has shunted out all ministers who were not doing good work.

BJP's other concern is that its lead in almost every seat has been steadily declining since 1985. According to a report, the average lead margin in the 1985 election was 23.70 per cent, which dropped to 10.72 per cent in 2012.

> The pace with which the BJP is organising events is an indication that it wants to win more seats. Since it faces no serious opposition in the state, the efforts are directed towards bagging more seats
>
> Dilip Patel, analyst

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is also on a visit to the state. On Saturday he laid foundation stone of Maa Umiya Mandir campus in Ahmedabad. This is the temple of the tutelary deity of Kadva Patidar caste, which is dominant in Gujarat. Shah laying foundation stone of the temple points to forthcoming polls, feel analysts.

According to political analyst Dilip Patel, BJP's image has deteriorated due to the poor handling of the pandemic and the party is now trying to improve its image. "The pace with which the BJP is currently organising programmes is an indirect indication that it wants to win more seats. Since the party faces no serious opposition in the state, efforts are directed towards bagging more seats in the polls," he said.

'Modi's efforts revive forgotten centres of faith'

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
@ Ahmedabad

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi brought forth a "new age" in 2014 by salvaging Hindus from humiliation and reviving forgotten centres of Hindu faith". He made the remarks while participating in the foundation stone laying ceremony of a temple for Umiya Mata, the tutelary deity of the Kadva Patidar sect, in Ahmedabad.

Shah said "revival" of temples has been "fearlessly" taken up under Modi's leadership. "Under Modi*ji*'s leadership, work on our forgotten faith centres is being undertaken without fear and with faith and respect," he said.

Shah commended the contribution of members of the Patidar community to the state. "The graph of Patidar community's progress and development runs parallel to Gujarat's graph of progress and development. The community has contributed in many fields ranging from business to education, technology and trade. Across the world, if there's a motel, it is invariably run by a Patel... Even along the borders of Arunachal, people are aware of the contribution of Patidars."

Meanwhile, PM Narendra Modi is expected to virtually attend the concluding session of the three-day temple event on December 13.

Kin, public give final farewell to martyrs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE martyrs in the helicopter crash in Tamil Nadu's Coonoor along with General Bipin Rawat were given emotional farewells as they were cremated with full military honours in their respective home towns/villages. Thousands of locals had gathered to salute the bravehearts as family members bid a tearful adieu.

In Agra, people lined up both sides of the road and showered flower petals as the military vehicle carrying the mortal remains of Wing Commander Prithvi Singh Chauhan was driven to the crematorium. The officer's father Surendra Singh, wife Kamini Singh and other family members were present at the crematorium, as were several local leaders, dignitaries, and officials. Chauhan's son Aviraj (7), daughter Aaradhya (12) and cousin Pushpendra Singh lit the pyre. Earlier in the morning, Union Minister of State for Law and Justice and MP from Agra S P Singh Baghel and officials of the IAF, police and administration paid their respects at the airport when the mortal remains arrived from Tamil Nadu.

The last rites of Squadron Leader Kuldeep Rao were performed with full military honours in his native village of Ghardana Khurd in Rajasthan's Jhunjhunu district. His wife Yashasvini wept uncontrollably as she lit the funeral pyre. His mother Kamla Devi was also present and kissed the photograph of her son and saluted him before the last rites were performed.

"My son was martyred while serving the country. He has brought laurels to the country and to our village. I will now send my daughter-in-law also to the army," said the braveheart mother.

Hundreds of locals and even people from other villages had reached to catch a last glimpse of the brave son of Shekhawati, a region that is known to send a large number of men to the security forces.

Lance Naik Vivek Kumar, the personal security officer of CDS Gen Bipin Rawat, was cremated at this native village Jaisinghpur in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh. Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur, who earlier received his mortal remains at the airport, announced ₹5 lakh as immediate relief to the bereaved family and an additional ₹5 lakh from his discretionary fund.

On the other hand, the family of Satpal Rai, the personal security officer of CDS Bipin Rawat, is still waiting for his mortal remains to be handed over. The delay is reportedly because the process of DNA matching is yet to be completed. Rai's wife in Darjeeling expressed disappointment over not receiving her husband's body.

Army personnel carry the mortal remains of Wing Commander Prithvi Singh Chauhan during his funeral in Agra on Saturday | PTI

Tribal leader held for objectionable post

Bhopal: A tribal outfit leader has been arrested in Khandwa district of Madhya Pradesh for allegedly making objectionable social media post on the death of CDS General Bipin Rawat and others in a helicopter crash on December 8. Durgesh Vaskale, who is reportedly associated with the tribal outfit Jai Adivasi Yuva Shakti (JAYS), was held based on the complaint lodged by local BJP MLA Ram Dangore.

TMC promises ₹5K per month to Goa women

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

FOLLOWING the model of 'Laxmir Bhandar', a scheme announced by Mamata Banerjee that offers Bengal's homemakers monthly dole, the Trinamool Congress on Saturday promised to launch similar venture titled 'Griha Laxmi Card' to woo the women electorates of Goa in the upcoming Assembly elections.

As per the new scheme, the Bengal's ruling party promises direct transfer of ₹5,000 monthly assistance to the account of the female head of every household in Goa. "It is an assured monthly income support scheme promised to all 3.5 lakh families in Goa. The scheme will cost the government approximately ₹1,500-2,000 crore, which is 6-8% of the state budget," the TMC announced.

Eyeing the women, which forms almost half of the Bengal's total electorates, Banerjee had announced the 'Laxmir Bhandar' scheme ahead of the Assembly elections in the state. The scheme is believed to have drawn women in favour of the TMC. "The CM's pet project ensured us unexpected electoral dividend in the Assembly elections. Now we are eyeing the women electorates in Goa," said a TMC leader.

EXPRESS READ

CMO man axed for bid to release seized truck

Dehradun: A political row has erupted in Uttarakhand after an official at the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) has been dismissed for allegedly writing to the district police chief of Bageshwar asking him to release four trucks seized for carrying out illegal mining.

Modi & Akhilesh spar over difference between BJP, SP

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

TARGETING the Samajwadi Party once again during the inauguration of the Saryu Canal National Project in eastern UP's Balrampur district on Saturday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the difference between the Yogi Adityanath government and the previous regime was clear to the people of UP. *"Farq saaf hai* (the difference is clear)," he said.

He said the "previous government patronised the mafia and encroached upon properties whereas the Yogi government is getting rid of the mafia and bulldozing their illegal assets. Taking on Akhilesh Yadav without naming him, the PM wondered why "someone" had not yet claimed credit for the Saryu Canal National Irrigation Project. "For the previous government, the priority was only to cut ribbons whereas we believe in completing the projects."

Responding to Modi, Yadav picked the PM's "*farq saaf hai*" phrase to say that the "SP gave students laptops, the BJP rained lathis on the youth. *Farq saaf hai*. The Samajwadi Party gave metros and expressways, the BJP is selling dreams."

Mon killings: Naga civil society wants Centre to apologise & repeal AFSPA

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

CIVIL society activists of Tizit in Mon district of Nagaland took out a "mass protest rally" on Saturday demanding the repeal of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) and flayed the Centre for not tendering apology for the killings of the civilians by the armed forces last week.

The protestors demanded justice in the case and warned that the people of Tizit would not remain silent till the guilty personnel were punished.

"Innocent lives were lost in a botched up ambush by the security forces. The Government of India has not apologised so far. The home minister said the victims, who were travelling in a vehicle, did not stop when signaled by the security forces. Who is spreading lies? Tizit will not remain at peace," a protestor told reporters.

Another protestor identified AFSPA as the root cause of the problem. "We demand AFSPA is repealed from the Northeast. We don't need the security forces. We want to live independently," the protestor said.

The protestors held banners that read "Indian troops killing innocent", "We want justice", "Revoke Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act", "Stop state-sponsored terrorism", etc.

People sit in protest in Mon district of Nagaland on Saturday | EXPRESS

Union Home Minister Amit Shah recently told the Parliament that the incident happened when the security personnel asked the vehicle carrying the victim mine labourers to stop but it tried to flee. The civil society groups in Nagaland have dismissed the statement as "lie".

Protests in NE on 2nd anniversary of CAA passage

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

THE protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) returned to the Northeast on Saturday. The North East Students' Organisation (NESO), the apex students' body of the region, observed the second anniversary of the controversial Act's passage as a "black day" while Assam's political party Asom Jatiya Parishad (AJP) burnt copies of the Act.

Members of the NESO hoisted black flags at all important places across the Northeast as a mark of protest. It had appealed to people to lend their support to the programme and keep fighting against CAA.

"On December 11, 2019, despite relentless opposition by the indigenous people of the Northeast, the Government of India had passed the draconian law in the Parliament," the NESO said in a statement.

HELPING HAND

'Silent' prayers in mosque to support offline classes

PRANAB MONDAL @ Kolkata

A mosque in Bengal's Jalpaiguri district has not only allowed its premises to run offline classes for students but also decided not to use loudspeakers during *azan* (prayer) to avoid disturbance in studies.

The state government resumed in-person classes in schools only for students between classes IX to XII because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Classes below class IX continue to be in online mode. Most students in Jalpaiguri's Berubari area, who are entitled to attend offline classes, do not have access to smartphones, a must for online classes.

Realising the hurdle, the teachers of Berubari Gomirapara High School came forward to ensure studies and prevent dropouts. The mosque authorities extended their hand and allowed the teachers to use the premises of the religious place for taking offline classes.

Students attend offline classes in the premises of a mosque in Jalpaiguri | EXPRESS

From the day of the first class, the mosque authorities decided not to use loudspeakers during *azan* as the sound might disturb students.

"Education of children should always be the first priority. Children are the future of our country. We are offering *azan* without loudspeakers to enable noise-free classes on our premises. We have no issue with that and requested teachers to continue classes," said Najmul Haque, the imam of the mosque. Haque lauded the initiative taken by the teachers.

Indranil Saha, a teacher of the school, said they received cooperation from the mosque authorities. "The area is adjacent to the India-Bangladesh border. The mobile network is very poor and besides, most of the students' families do not have smartphones. So, we decided to provide offline classes for students outside the school. Our goal is to continue the education of every student."

It's warmth blended with entertainment

The Lucknow municipal corporation has resumed operation of permanent and temporary shelter homes to house the homeless. The city has 26 operational shelter homes with a total capacity for 1,000 people. At present, about 374 people are living in 18 permanent shelter homes and 253 in eight temporary ones. Besides providing basic amenities to occupants, the administration has also arranged indoor board games and LED TVs for their entertainment. Moreover, yoga sessions are also being conducted.

NAMITA BAJPAI
Our correspondent in Uttar Pradesh
namita.bajpai@newindianexpress.com

LUCKNOW DIARY

Lucknow feels the chill as mercury drops below 10°C

As dry northwesterly winds continued to lash the City of Nawabs, mercury level on Friday dropped below 10 degrees Celsius for the first time this winter. While maximum temperature during the day was 23.7 degrees Celsius, two units below normal, the minimum temperature in the wee hours was 9.6 degrees Celsius. Even further drop in minimum temperature in the coming days is predicted. With little mist in the morning, the day had bright sunshine. A western disturbance is expected to hit the Himalayas between December 13 and 15, causing rains and snow in hills of Uttarakhand thus bringing the temperature further down. Considering the weather forecast, weather officials in the state have alerted district authorities suggesting that they make appropriate arrangements to fight the cold.

Migratory birds make city their winter home

Lucknow Gharana may be known for exquisite Kathak dance form but the state capital also has a gharana of birds. Bird watchers have spotted and listed at least 360 kinds of birds in Lucknow. With the onset of winter, these sightings are set to increase as several rare migratory birds also make the city their home for the season. While the sunbird is found all over Lucknow, bird watchers say migratory birds from trans-Himalayan region and northern Siberia are also being spotted these days.

Olympic medallist appointed OSD

Lalit Upadhyay who was part of the Indian hockey squad which won bronze medal at Tokyo Olympics has been appointed officer on special duty (OSD), in the rank of deputy superintendent of police, in Uttar Pradesh Police. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had assured Upadhyay that he would be given a job in the state government. For Lalit, a non-cadre post of OSD has been created temporarily outside the purview of the Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission in Group 'B', equivalent to Deputy Superintendent of Police. His emoluments and pay scale will be equal to an officer of DSP rank.

24 CHARGED
over forcing migrants into 'modern-day slavery' in the US

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	11	-2	HR	Los Angeles	21	9	SNY
Colombo	29	24	TDS	Melbourne	27	14	LR
Dhaka	23	22	TDS	Moscow	-2	-5	LR
Dubai	31	21	SNY	New York	8	6	SNY
Houston	26	22	SNY	Singapore	31	26	LC
Istanbul	15	11	SNY	Toronto	3	3	LC
London	7	2	LC	Washington	11	3	LC

RARE CALAMITY

70 killed as 30 tornadoes tear through 6 US states

Roof of Kentucky factory with 110 workers collapses, toll could rise

A house damaged by a storm in Tennessee on Saturday morning | AP

WASHINGTON

At least 70 people were feared dead in Kentucky after tornadoes and severe weather tore through multiple states and caused catastrophic damage.

Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear said at a news conference Saturday that the death toll may exceed 100.

"This has been the most devastating tornado event in our state's history," Beshear said.

At least 30 tornadoes were reported from multiple US states. The storms hit a candle factory in Kentucky, an Amazon facility in Illinois and a nursing home in Arkansas. Beshear said about 110 people were in the Mayfield factory when the tornado hit.

Kentucky State Police Trooper Sarah Burgess said search and rescue teams were going through the rubble Saturday but didn't yet have a number for how many have died.

"We just can't confirm a number right now because we are still out there working, and we have so many agencies involved in helping us," Burgess said. She said rescue crews were using heavy equipment to move rubble at the candle factory in western Kentucky. Coroners were called to the scene and bodies were recovered, but she didn't know how many. She said it could take a day to remove all of the rubble.

President Joe Biden tweeted Saturday that he was briefed on the situation and pledged the affected states would "have what they need as the search for survivors and damage assessments continue."

Kyana Parsons-Perez, an employee at the factory, was trapped under 5 feet (about 1.5 meters) of debris for at least two hours until rescuers managed to free her. In an interview with "TODAY," she said it was the "absolutely the most terrifying" event she had ever experienced. "I did not think I was going to make it at all."

Just before the tornado struck, the building's lights flickered. She felt a gust of wind, her ears started "popping" and then, "Boom. Everything came down on us." People started screaming, and she heard Hispanic workers praying in Spanish.

Among those who helped rescue the trapped workers were inmates from the nearby Graves County Jail, she said.

"They could have used that moment to try to run away or anything, but they did not. They were there, helping us," she said. Elsewhere in Graves County, the landscape was a scene of devastation with uprooted trees, downed utility poles, a store destroyed and homes severely damaged.

At least one person died at an Amazon facility in Edwardsville, Illinois, Police Chief Mike Fillback told reporters Saturday morning. The roof of the building was ripped off and a wall about the length of a football field collapsed. *AP*

US weaponsing democracy, says China

BEIJING

CHINA on Saturday accused the US of using democracy as a "weapon of mass destruction" to "stoke divisions and confrontation" as it slammed the Summit for Democracy organised by the Biden administration, which Beijing portrays as a new front being formed by US to isolate it to halt its rise.

The two-day summit attended by over 100 world leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, concluded on Friday with a call to evaluate progress in safeguarding fair elections, protecting human rights and fighting corruption. While the US omitted China and Russia from the list of invitees, Beijing was furious over the invitation to the self-governing island Taiwan, which China said is a blatant violation of the 'One China' policy that considers Taipei as the integral part of the Chinese mainland.

In what could be Taiwan's most high profile international conference for decades, its Minister without Portfolio Audrey Tang and Hsiao Bi-khim, head of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the US, took part in the summit.

Tang, who spoke at a panel discussion on 'Countering Digital Authoritarianism and Affirming Democratic Values', said governments should work with civil society groups to develop digital democracy to tackle the various challenges facing the world, Taiwan media reports said.

Wrapping up the summit, Biden said, "A final message I want to impart as we close out this Summit for Democracy is that we know how hard the work is going to be ahead of us. But we also know we are up to the challenge." He said the two-day virtual gathering has demonstrated that the democratic world is everywhere.

Biden said autocracies can never extinguish the embers of liberty that burns in the hearts of people around the world, in every portion of the world.

"We're committed to working with all who share those values, to shape the rules of the road that are going to govern our progress in the 21st century, including on issues of cybersecurity and emerging technologies so that future generations continue to reap the benefits of liberty and democracy, as we have," he said. The Chinese foreign ministry, which has been attacking the summit in the past few weeks, issued a lengthy statement accusing the US of stocking divisions in the name of democracy. *AFP*

BANGLADESH

US envoy summoned over sanctions

Bangladesh Foreign Secretary on Saturday summoned the US Ambassador to express Dhaka's disappointment over the sanctions imposed by Washington on seven present and former officials of the elite anti-crime unit Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), allegedly over human rights abuses and extra-judicial killings. On Friday, Benazir Ahmed, now a General Inspector of Police and a former Director General of RAB, and six other officials were designated by the US Department of Treasury under the Global Magnitsky sanctions programme in connection with human rights abuse. "Today the US Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control is designating 15 individuals ... for their connection to human rights abuse and repression," a US Treasury press release said.

ASIA MATTERS

INDONESIA

Pandemic-hit Garuda airline enters debt restructuring

Garuda Indonesia has entered a court-supervised restructuring process as the debt-ridden airline tries to rescue itself from bankruptcy. The new attempt to save the Indonesian flag-carrier began after a Jakarta court granted a debt petition filed against the airline by one of its creditors Thursday. The ruling gave Garuda and its creditors 45 days to submit a debt restructuring proposal. The period can be extended by up to 270 days. Garuda has suffered massive losses during the Covid-19 pandemic.

SINGAPORE

Indian-origin woman jailed for cheating

An Indian-origin woman in Singapore has been sentenced to 16 months in jail, with the judge noting that her attempt to cheat the government would have been at expense of taxpayers' money meant for Covid-19 Support Grant, according to a media report. Rajagopal Malini, 48, committed the offences between July and September last year including a forged termination letter from the condominium she worked at in an attempt to claim money from the Covid-19 Support Grant. Rajagopal also took cash given to her by residents for their maintenance fees of more than 4,000 Singapore dollars, and used a stolen credit card on a 13,500 Singapore dollars shopping spree with her children and their friends in September last year to "shower her children with love", *The Straits Times* reported.

US sanctions two Sri Lankan officers over rights violations

COLOMBO

THE US has imposed sanctions on two Sri Lankan military officers, including a murder convict pardoned by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, for human rights violations, banning them and their immediate family members from entering America. Chandana Hettiarachchi, a Naval officer, and Sunil Ratnayake, a former staff sergeant of the Sri Lankan Army, were among several officers from 12 countries who were sanctioned by the US over accountability for "gross violations of human rights".

Hettiarachchi was involved in the "flagrant denial of the right to liberty of at least eight 'Trincomalee 11' victims, from 2008 to 2009," the US state department said in a statement issued on Friday, coinciding with the International Human Rights Day. The 'Trincomalee 11' case pertains to the abduction and murder of 11 Tamil youths from Trincomalee district. They were killed in Naval custody after they had been abducted for extortion of money, news website colombogazette.com reported. Ratnayake was involved in the "extrajudicial killings of at least eight Tamil villagers in December 2000", the statement said. Ratnayake was sentenced to death by a Lankan court for killing the eight Tamil civilians, including four children. *PTI*

HOT CONTEST

Miss Universe contestants appear on stage during the preliminary stage of the 70th Miss Universe beauty pageant in Israel's southern Red Sea coastal city of Eilat on Friday | AFP

BRITAIN SEEKS UNITY AT G7 MEETING

LIVERPOOL

Diplomats from the G7 industrialised nations gathered in Liverpool, with host country Britain seeking "a show of unity against global aggressors" amid a crisis over Russia's intentions towards Ukraine. The UK is seeking elusive consensus from the wealthy nations' club in response to what it calls "malign behavior" by Russia, and over tensions with China and Iran. As a Salvation Army band played Christmas carols, British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss greeted U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and other G-7 counterparts with fist bumps in the rotunda of the modernist Museum of Liverpool at the start of the two-day talks.

"We need to defend ourselves against the growing threats from hostile actors," Truss said as she opened the meeting of foreign ministers from the UK, the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan. *AP*

Gautam Raghavan to head WH Personnel Office

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden has elevated Indian-American political advisor **Gautam Raghavan** as the head of the White House Office of Presidential Personnel.

White House Presidential Personnel Office (PPO), also written as Office of Presidential Personnel, is the White House office tasked with vetting new appointees. The PPO is one of the offices most responsible for assessing candidates to work at or for the White House. President Biden on Friday elevated Raghavan, who was currently posted as the PPO Deputy Director, to the key White House post after UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres announced his intent to appoint Cathy Russell as the next executive director of UNICEF. Russell is currently the head of WH PPO.

Under Cathy's leadership, the PPO has broken records in both speed and diversity of hiring, working relentlessly to ensure that our federal government reflects America, Biden said. "I am also pleased that Gautam Raghavan, who has worked in tandem with Cathy from Day One, will become PPO's new director — a seamless transition that will enable us to continue building a federal workforce that is efficient, effective, dependable and diverse," he said.

A first-generation immigrant, Raghavan was born in India, raised in Seattle and graduated from Stanford University. He is the editor of the book *West Wingers: Stories from the Dream Chasers, Change Makers, and Hope Creators Inside the Obama White House*.

Raghavan is openly gay. He lives with his husband and their daughter. Raghavan has served as deputy assistant to the President and deputy director of the White House Office of Presidential Personnel since January 20, 2020. *PTI*

Jokes on approval rating, inflation as Biden meets Fallon

Joe Biden appearance on NBC's *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon* is the first by a sitting president since Barack Obama. Jokes were cracked on inflation and Biden's approval ratings

'Not looking at ratings'

Joe Biden's approval ratings have sunk to the low 40 per cent area, in part due to the spike in inflation

Asked by host Jimmy Fallon if he pays attention to approval ratings, Biden deadpanned: "Well, not anymore."

"I'm joking. I was paying attention when it was in the mid-60s, but when it's in the mid-40s I don't pay attention," said the president, to laughter from the studio audience

Inflation will ease soon: Biden

Fallon managed one barb about inflation figures, claiming he had earlier asked the president how excited he was to appear on the show on a scale of one to ten.

"He said ten. But six without inflation"

"We do have inflation on things that in fact matter in people's lives" such as gas prices, said Biden.

PRAISED FOR RESTORING 'CLASS' TO WH

Fallon praised Biden for "bringing class back to the office" of the president

Biden's appearance by remote video comes after his predecessor President Donald Trump declined invitations for any late-night talk shows as president.

Obama frequently used programs hosted by Fallon and rivals to speak to the wider US public

EXPRESS READ

Nepal PM Deuba files papers for presidency

Kathmandu: Six top Nepali Congress leaders, including incumbent president Sher Bahadur Deuba, filed nomination papers for the party's senior-most position on Saturday. The Nepali Congress' 14th General Convention was inaugurated at the Bhrikuti Mandap in the capital on Friday, a highly anticipated four-day meet.

Centrist leader asked to form govt in Bulgaria

Sofia: Bulgaria's president on Saturday gave a mandate to form a new government to the prime minister-designate of a centrist party that won the country's parliamentary election last month on promises to fight endemic corruption and carry out legal reforms. Among the coalition government's main tasks will be trying to steer the European Union member nation out of a twin health and economic crisis.

PUBLIC NOTICE
LOST OF DOCUMENTS

I, have lost/misplaced the original Sale Deed dated 04-06-1998, registered as document No.2006/1998-99, stored in CD No.ICD004, in the office of Sub Registrar, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, pertaining to property bearing Site Nos.34, 35 and 36, House List No.1946/2, Khata No.2886, situated at **KACHARAKANAHALLI VILLAGE, KASABA HOBLI, BANGALORE NORTH TALUK,** measuring East to West : 135 feet, and North to South : 40 feet, and a police complaint has been lodged on 08-12-2021, vide reference No. G.LOST (GSC) No. PO1430210600585, before UPPARPET POLICE STATION, complaining about loss/misplacement of the SAME. If any person/s, Institution/s, Bank/s, Firm/s, etc., were to trace or holding the SAID DOCUMENT, the same may be informed/ communicated to me.

GUNABHOOSHANAM, 68 years,
S/o. Late M. Anniyappa,
No.5/1, 2nd Cross, Kanthina Krishnappa Lane, Cottonpet, BANGALORE-560 053

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(PROJECT ORGANISATION)
Corrigendum No.1

Office of the Deputy Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, Projects, I Floor, G.C. Building, Mc Nichols Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600 031

The modifications, under Amendment & Corrigendum No.1 for E-Tender Notice No SG/Proj/I/MS/IP-MPLS 141 stations / 2021/EOT(07) dated 23.11.2021 are as detailed below:

Item No.1 Particulars: Tender Closing Date Time: As published in the website: 24/12/2021 14.00 Hrs.

To be read as 07.01.2022 14.00 Hrs.

Item No. 2 POC test setup v(f)In addition to the above, detailed...

To be read as v(f)In addition to the above, test case...

1. Tenderers are requested to consider the revised tender document. 2. Revised tender Notice and Tender document are available in the website **ww.ireps.gov.in** 3. All the term and conditions shall remain unchanged.

DY. CSTE / Project / I / MS
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

THE SALEM DISTRICT CO-OP., MILK PRODUCERS' UNION LTD.,
Thalavaipatty Post, Salem - 636 302. Telephone : 7373704802.
E-mail : aavinslmmkg@gmail.com

TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE

Salem Milk Union invites sealed tenders for **20** Puffed vehicles for distribution of milk published on **The New Indian Express (Southern) and Dinakaran (Tamilnadu) on 14.06.2021 (DIPR/1739/Tender/2021).** During initial examination of tender applications, it was found not abiding the TTT Act. 2000 rule 28. Hence, we regret to inform that all the tender applications herewith summarily rejected.

DIPR/ 4004 /TENDER/2021 — **GENERAL MANAGER Aavin, Salem**

QuoteExpress

TRY TO LEAVE THE EARTH A BETTER PLACE THAN WHEN YOU ARRIVED

SIDNEY SHELDON

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

DECLARATION
I, NAWABZADA MOHAMMED OMER BIN JUNG, residing at 93/11, Nandidurga Road, BensonTown, OPP UTC Quarters Bangalore-46, do hereby declare that my son's original name is **MOHAMMED AYAAN JUNG,** but his name in Class 10th application and school records it was mentioned as Ayaan Jung. I hereby declare that my son's correct name is **MOHAMMED AYAAN JUNG** instead of Ayaan Jung. I further declare that **MOHAMMED AYAAN JUNG** and Ayaan Jung both are one and the same person. A declaration to this effect was made by an affidavit dt 10.12.2021 before the Notary Mr Prasad Shetty K.B., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, NEELAVATHI BENAKANAHALLI VENKATESH, R/o Flat No.305 NSR Brindavan Apartment Reliable residency Layout, Haralur Road, Somasandrapalya, Bengaluru 560102, have changed my name as **NEELAVATHI KORAPATTI SUNDER** vide affidavit dated 11.12.2021 sworn before notary B.M. Chandrashekar, Bengaluru.

NAME DECLARATION
I, KESHAVAPPA .N S/o. Narayanappa K. aged about 65 years, residing at Flat No. 202, J.S.R. Arcade, Vidyaranyapura Main Road, Opp:Durga Temple Arch, Site No.592, H.M.T.Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru North, Bengalore - 560097. I hereby declare that my names " **KESHAVAPPA .N @ KESHAPPA NARAYANAPPA** " these Both names are belongs to me only, vide affidavit dated 18.11.2021 sworn to before Notary **ANITHA BAI** Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **Mrs.AROGYA JYOTHI MARY,** W/o, Balaraj C, aged about 33 years, Residing at No.198, 1st Cross, V. Nagenahalli, Bangalore North, R.T.Nagar, Bangalore-560032, do hereby declare that my Son's Actual & Correct name is **ANTHONY ROHAN B,** but in Church Records, it is mentioned as **ANTHONY ROHIT** instead of **ANTHONY ROHAN B,** vide affidavit dated:09-12-2021, sworn before Advocate & Notary Public, Leela, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SUJEETH S. KUMAR, S/o. Sampathkumar A., residing at No. 558, 1st Floor, 16th Cross, New BEL Road, RMV Extension 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560094, have changed my name from **SUJEETH S. KUMAR** to **SUJEETH KUMAR SAMPATHKUMAR,** vide affidavit, dated: 11/12/2021, sworn to before Notary Public, G.P. Chaya, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) SARASWATHAMMA K, Resident of No. 827, 4th Cross, B D A 11th block, Nagarbhavi 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560072, have changed my name to **(NEW NAME) SARASWATHI K** vide affidavit Dated 24/11/2021 sworn before Notary DEVARAJA.E., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) KAILASH CHAND, residing at No. 4102, 9th Block, Janapriya Township, Magadi Road, Kadabagere, Bengaluru-562130, have changed my name to **(NEW NAME) KAILASH CHAND SHARMA** vide affidavit Dated 10/12/2021 sworn before Notary Gangaraju.B.N., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **BHADRAVATHI SHAKUNTHALAMMA,** W/o. M.A Sreenivasachar, Age 59 years, R/O No.772, "PAVAMANA", 4th Block, Near R.V Architecture College, BSK 6th Stage, Chikkegowdanapalya, Bangalore-560062, do hereby declare that I have changed my name to **BADIGER SHAKUNTHALAMMA,** vide affidavit dated: 10/12/2021 sworn before notary H.G PADMANABHA RAO, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, B J MAREMMA W/o. B J Katte Mareppa, Aged About 44 Years, Residing at No.7/683, Holagunda, Kurnool District, Andra Pradesh-518346, have changed my name from B J Katte Maremma to B J Maremma for all purposes vide affidavit dated 11.12.2021 sworn by me before H H Nagaraj, the Notary Public.

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$635.905 bn India's total foreign exchange reserves at the week ended December 3, after declining $1.783 billion, according to RBI data

NEWSCOPE

THE AIRLINES BUSINESS NOW IS A TWO-HORSE RACE

GURBIR SINGH

THERE'S a hefty shift and rumble on the airline landscape after the Tatas bought over the ailing Air India with its humungous assets. As the two big players — Air India and Indigo — will now slug it out, the smaller strugglers, with mounting losses and inability to raise desperately needed funds, are sinking fast.

After several still-born attempts, GoFirst Air was to launch its initial public offer (IPO) on 8 December. It did not happen. On the same day, the Madras High Court allowed a winding up petition against SpiceJet Airlines filed by Credit Suisse. The trigger seems to be the failure of the airline to pay up $24.01 million due to engine maintenance services firm, SRT Technics. SpiceJet has got a breather of 3 weeks to sort this out.

Though the Covid-19 freeze on air travel is beginning to thaw, high fuel prices and the slow recovery of passenger traffic continues to spoil the party. For some of the weaker airlines, survival itself is a question mark.

₹1,436 cr
Indigo's quarterly loss reported in October 2021

127 aircraft
Fleet of Air India which is now owned by Tata

STRUGGLE FOR SMALLER PLAYERS
As the two big players — Air India and Indigo — will now slug it out, the smaller strugglers, with mounting losses and inability to raise desperately needed funds, are sinking fast

AMIT BANDRE

SpiceJet sinking?

Ajay Singh, one of the original founders of SpiceJet, has been often seen as a smart businessman with the right political connections and an ability to pull things back from the brink. Though he was a co-founder of SpiceJet in 2005, Ajay Singh exited in 2010 leaving the airline in control of the Sun Group-Kalanathi Maran family. When the airline was near closure in 2015, he bought it back.

SpiceJet for a few years was on the growth path and even made modest profits, but its inability to cope with the Covid-19 crisis, has brought it to near closure once again. The airline posted its 7th consecutive loss recently — ₹561.7 crore for the quarter ended September 2021, and ₹729 crore for the previous June 2022 quarter. In 2020-21, the company lost ₹1,029.89 crore, up from a loss of ₹936.57 crore in the previous year. Last financial year, revenues fell 54% to ₹6,119.39 crore.

The airline's problems are more than just high fuel prices. It does not have the ability to raise cash to handle its debts and daily operations of a modestly large fleet of 109 aircraft. For instance, it is fighting aircraft maker De Havilland for defaults and damages of over $40 million in respect of delivery of Q-400 turboprops. There's also the battle with aircraft lessors Goshawk and BOC Aviation for defaults on lease payments. The airline has a good presence in regional routes, and has reconfigured its fleet to cater more to cargo operations. Yet it needs to recapitalize and raise ₹2,500 crore immediately to continue operations. A difficult task, indeed!

GoFirst's IPO struggle

GoFirst, earlier GoAir, shelved its IPO on 8 December perhaps on weak investor signals after the Paytm fiasco, and Star Health Insurance's IPO listing at a 6% discount. The runaway has been bumpy. After GoAir notified its red herring prospectus on 13 May, several attempts at listing by the company have failed. It seems the company does not have the market's confidence.

A simple examination of how the proceeds of the IPO have been apportioned does not generate investor confidence. The IPO is not a growth agenda but a lifeline for survival. Of the ₹3,600 crore to be raised, about 55% has been set aside to retire old debts. Another ₹240 crore will go to pay Indian Oil's aviation fuel bills.

GoAir registered a loss of ₹923 crore in the first April-September half this year, and slow deployment of flights led to the airline's share shrinking to 6.5% in May from 9.6% in the previous month.

Since inception in 2005, the company has adopted a cautious approach, which some may say is a euphemism for stagnation. Over 16 years, while others like Indigo soared, it has less than 50 operational aircraft and annual revenues are less than ₹7,000 crore. It is perhaps to try and kickstart faster growth that Jeh Wadia, who ran the airline since inception, was made to step down as Managing Director, in March this year.

In comparison, Indigo which launched in 2006, one year after both SpiceJet and GoAir, today operates 276 aircraft and flies to 71 domestic and 24 international destinations. Covid has taken a toll on the airline too and it reported its 7th straight quarterly loss this October of ₹1,436 crore. However, it has cut its losses from ₹3,174 crore in the previous quarter, and internally its warring founders, Rahul Bhatia and Rakesh Gangwal , are moving to a settlement.

The other big player, Air India, with the Tata acquisition will now evolve into a different beast. It has a fleet of 127 aircraft, including 26 wide-bodied aircraft. More important, it has 100 domestic and 70 international destinations; and a massive network of maintenance and hangar facilities.

The Tatas, the second largest private sector behemoth, will infuse the required capital and management skills, add their existing airlines — Air Asia India and Vistara — in which they own a majority stake, and what you will get is a formidable airline that will take on Indigo.

Competition is going to turn sharper; and it is difficult to see how the small boys who have been flapping around so far, will survive the onslaught.

Credit cards are passe; consumers are opting for 'buy now, pay later'

Higher purchasing power offered via BNPL during Covid is driving growth of the sector

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

EVER since the outbreak of the pandemic, there has been a massive shift in consumers' preferences towards online buying and digital payments. These preferences have propelled the adoption of buy-now-pay-later (BNPL) services.

As consumers can buy now and pay them off over time, e-commerce and fintech firms are providing attractive offers like zero interest and instant discount. These companies are also seeing immense response from consumers.

Fintech firm Paytm, which went public recently, says that during the last 18 months the company has been seeing high adoption of credit products on its platform, mainly Paytm Postpaid, which is the company's BNPL product.

"The number of loans disbursed grew 714% y-o-y to over 2.8 million in Q2 FY22. The lending business continued to show strong growth as a result of the rapid scale-up of all of our lending products, including postpaid (BNPL), consumer loans, and merchant loans," a Paytm spokesperson says.

Paytm says the growth rate suggests the scale-up can be fairly large from where it stands today and that it is seeing a fairly large opportunity in India. "Our financial institution partners have disbursed around 1.3 million loans in October 2021, which shows a cumulative 472% increase in number of loans disbursed y-o-y and aggregating to a total disbursal of ₹627 crore, implying a 418% increase in value of loans disbursed y-o-y," the spokesperson adds.

So, if a college student without a credit card wants to buy a laptop, the student can do so instantly and also break down into 6 or even 8 payments.

Flexible EMI options

E-commerce major Flipkart has seen a 2x y-o-y growth in customers using Flipkart Pay Later with some of the top categories such as lifestyle, grocery, home and electronic accessories. Ahead of this year's festive season, Flipkart launched 'Flipkart Pay Later EMI' facility, offering a credit line of up to ₹70,000 for customers, that can be paid back over flexible tenures. "The early response during this festive season and beyond has been overwhelmingly positive, with Flipkart Pay Later EMI contributing a healthy and rapidly growing share of all EMIs on the platform," says Dheeraj Aneja, Senior Vice President and Head - Fintech and Payments Group, Flipkart.

NEW WAY TO PAY

$45-50 bn India's BNPL market likely to hit by 2026 according to Redseer research

$37.5 bn BNPL gross merchandise value in India likely by 2028

$3.7 bn BNPL gross merchandise value expected by 2020

$2.1 bn Annual equity funding that BPNL players have received globally across 20 deals

MAJOR BNPL PLAYERS IN INDIA
Amazon Pay, Flipkart Pay Later EMI, Paytm Postpaid, LazyPay, Simpl, ZestMoney

SEGMENTS WHERE BUY-NOW-PAY-LATER IS POPULAR
Apparel, Beauty, Travel, Entertainment, Healthcare

Increasing adoption of BNPL

Redseer research says that India's BNPL market will touch $45-50 billion by 2026, from the existing $3-3.5 billion. According to Research and Markets, the higher purchasing power offered by BNPL in times of coronavirus pandemic is driving the growth of the sector.

Strong growth of the e-commerce sector helped start-ups and fintech giants to establish their footprints in the BNPL space in India. For instance, the pay later service offered by Amazon has more than two million users in India and has already been used more than 10 million times since its launch in April 2020, says the report.

The report adds that the BNPL payment adoption is expected to grow steadily, recording a CAGR of 28.9% during 2021-2028. The BNPL gross merchandise value in the country will increase from $3.7 bn in 2020 to $37.5 bn by 2028.

E-commerce players partner with fintech players/non-banking financial services companies or banks and offer various options to customers. Banks have also forayed into the BNPL segment, as HDFC Bank's FlexiPay, where one can select tenure starting from 15 days up to 90 days; ICICI Bank's PayLater, where one can get up to 45 days zero interest digital credit.

Paytm has built strategic partnerships with large banks and NBFCs and garnered positive results. The Paytm spokesperson says, "We are further planning to accelerate our strategic penetration in the BNPL market segment across demographics and geographies pan India and significantly increasing new customer acquisition and acquired side ecosystem and use cases at both offline and online, leveraging strong Paytm Payments distribution."

Fintech players such as Simpl, ZestMoney and Uni, among other prominent players provide many discounts and choices to customers.

Simpl, a pure-play BNPL fintech player, has been seeing an upward curve in the BNPL space. Over the past two months, Simpl onboarded 4,000 merchants taking the total count to over 7,000 as of date.

Credit and debit cards are widely used payment forms, but people's interest in alternative payment systems has accelerated in a post-Covid world, and India is no exception. Buy Now Pay Later provides the most hassle-free and convenient checkout options. We have witnessed robust revenue growth with a sizable jump in monthly active merchants taking the total tally of partner merchants to over 7,000 and 10x growth in the active user base in the last 18 months, says Nitya Sharma, Co-founder and CEO, Simpl.

Uni, which is present in the top 50 cities in the country, says millennials and GenZ prefer the new payments option. "BNPL format helps them plan better and solve short-term liquidity crunches," says Nitin Gupta, founder and CEO, Uni.

From ₹80 lakh monthly disbursal in June this year, Uni is currently clocking ₹120 crore in monthly disbursals as of November 2021, and is growing at the rate of 40% M-o-M. Uni is also planning to launch affordable EMI plans if customers need longer repayment tenures from 6,9,12 and 18 months.

The way forward

While it is evident that the BNPL space will see significant players and exponential growth in future, there are also concerns like falling behind on payments and consumer debt. Also, since in India the segment is nascent, there is no standardisation. According to Research and Markets, the size of the US BNPL market was said to be worth around a few billion dollars in 2019, but this is estimated to have grown by 1,200% by 2024. Now, the regulators in the US are worried about unregulated credit.

Fintechs are capitalising on the growth of Point-of-Sale (POS) products including BNPL, which could present a longer-term competitive threat to banks and card companies. Failure to adapt and compete effectively with these new payment/commerce constructs could erode market share and reduce profitability, which could lead to negative rating momentum for monoline card issuers, Fitch Ratings says.

EXPRESS READ

Impact of Omicron to be less severe: Finmin

New Delhi: India will be among only a few economies in the world to rebound strongly from Covid-19 induced economic contraction of 2020-21, a finance ministry report said assuaging that the Omicron variant's impact on the economy will be less severe due to rapid vaccination. Real GDP in Q2 of FY22 has grown by 8.4% YoY, recovering more than 100% of the pre-pandemic output in the corresponding quarter of FY20, said the monthly Economic Review by the finance ministry.

International Solar Alliance is Observer: UN

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@New Delhi

UNITED Nations on Saturday granted Observer status to International Solar Alliance, an alliance of 124 counties initiated by India. The UN said this is going to give impetus to One Sun One World One Grid and will help in bringing equitable energy solutions to the world.

Most of these countries are sunshine countries, which lie completely or partly between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.

In a congratulatory tweet Union Minister for Power RK Singh said that the historic decision of granting Observer status to International Solar Alliance by United Nations is going to be a stepping stone in furtherance of Prime Minister's vision of One Sun One World One Grid. "This will provide a big boost to the initiative to bring about just and equitable energy solutions through the deployment of solar energy," tweeted Singh.

Prime Minister Narender Modi launched Green Grids Initiative (GGI)-OSOWOG at the World Leaders Summit that aims to connect 140 countries to round-the-clock solar power.

As per the alliance, three pilot interconnection corridors have been shortlisted for detailed technical and financial viability under OSOWOG. They are-- South Asia (India)-Southeast Asia (Myanmar to Thailand), South Asia (India)-West Asia and West Asia-Africa.

Singh also marked that this would immensely help towards achieving the goal of net-zero carbon emissions through global co-operations.

Business & Beyond

NICL celebrates 116th Foundation Day

National Insurance Company Limited celebrated Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav - 75 years of India's Independence, in sync with the Company's 116th Foundation Day wherein Chairman-cum-Managing Director Suchita Gupta felicitated ex-employees above the age of 75 years. The corporate management felicitated the sanitation workers and security guards working at the head office, appreciating their relentless efforts during Covid.

InFED, IIM Nagpur signs MoU with Indian Institute of Packaging, Mumbai

The IIMN Foundation for Entrepreneurship Development (InFED), business incubator of IIM Nagpur, has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP), Mumbai an autonomous body under the aegis of Ministry of Commerce and Industry. This MoU shall enable start-ups incubated with InFED to have exclusive access to innovative packaging technologies developed by IIP, Mumbai.

Scarcity of iron, puffing hot iron in the Arabian Sea and geo-engineering climate

As a part of the GEOTRACES-INDIA initiative, a major oceanographic programmes upported by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, government of India, dissolved iron cycling in the Arabian Sea and subtropical gyre region of the Indian Ocean has been studied. The study has made several breakthroughs in the field of micronutrients and trace metal biogeochemistry in the Northern Indian Ocean, particularly in the Arabian Sea region.

SER hosts meeting with tour operators

Indian Railways has planned to introduce the theme based tourist circuit trains "Bharat Gaurav" to showcase the country's rich cultural heritage and glorious historical places to the people. A meeting was organised at SER headquarters, Garden Reach, on Dec 3 to brief the tour operators about the aspects of the "Bharat Gaurav" trains.

VOC Port contributes ₹18 lakh for dewatering work

V O Chidambaranar Port on December 4 contributed `18 lakh to the Thoothukudi district administration, as a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, for procurement of high power pumps. The pumps would be used to expedite dewatering of waterlogged areas of Thoothukudi city and other areas on a war footing. TK Ramachandran, Chairman, VO Chidambaranar Port Trust, handed over a cheque to K Senthil Raj, District Collector, Thoothukudi.

BBMB awarded by Dept of Official Language

Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs, on Nov 27 organised a Rajbhasha Sammelan and prize distribution function at Kanpur (UP). Chief engineer/system operation (for 2018-2019) & chief engineer/transmission system (for 2019-2020) of Bhakra Beas Management Board were awarded the first prize under 'B' Zone.

GRSE launches first survey vessel

Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd. (GRSE), a Mini Ratna defence PSU, achieved another milestone on Dec 5 with the launch of the first Survey Vessel, in the series of four ships under the Survey Vessel (Large) project for the Indian Navy. Upholding the maritime traditions, the ship was named "Sandhayak" and "launched" by Pushpa Bhatt, wife of Ajay Bhatt, Raksha Rajya Mantri.

MIDC clears ₹355 crore investment

Maharashtra has given the investment and land approval to LG Balakrishnan & Bros Ltd., a Coimbatore based company, for a 60,000 sqmt plot in the Additional Butiburi (Nagpur) area. The investment was considered for fast-track approval as it is in line with the state government's vision to achieve equitable development. The establishment of aforementioned unit shall also bring direct employment to more than 500 jobseekers.

Verstappen on pole in winner-takes-all final race

Max Verstappen overcame a mistake in qualifying to grab the pole for the Formula One title-deciding Abu Dhabi GP, where he'll try on Sunday to dethrone seven-time champion Lewis Hamilton. The Brit, aiming to win a record eighth title, finished in second. He had topped practice charts earlier.

With the Badminton World Championships beginning from Sunday and Sindhu looking to defend her title, a look at some of the India-specific talking points...

HUELVA TIME

Eyeballs on Sindhu

This is equal parts natural as well as unnatural. Indians generally don't do well at big events but then, PV Sindhu treats big-ticket events like they are Sunday morning events in her backyard. 2015 is the last time she failed to medal in one of these events. Coming into the tournament as defending champion, the 26-year-old will start as one of the favourites. The draw, though, isn't too kind. She could potentially face Tai Tzu Ying in the quarters.

Can Srikanth find second wind?

For a former World No 1, Srikanth hasn't played well at blue riband events like the Worlds. Seeded 12, the 28-year-old's best finish is the last eight. He did it on three separate occasions. He has lost a bit of zip to his game in recent years but with time running out — advancements in sports science has still not made badminton a game for people on the wrong side of 30 — now is the time for him to rediscover his lost mojo. Could face 4th seed Chou Tien Chen in the third round.

The coaching set-up

P Gopichand continues to be the go-to person but he will not be in person. Sindhu will have her point person, Park Tae Sang. With Indonesia's Agus Dwi Santosa leaving that has left the men's singles players without a guide. Reports state that Mulyo Handoyo and Tan Kim Her are set to rejoin as coaches but they won't be with the contingent during the Worlds. So the likes of Srikanth and the men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty may have to share in Spain.

The doubles specialists

Satwik and Chirag have come up leaps and bounds as a pair but what they are lacking is a global medal. Even if they have stopped working with Boe post the Olympics that medal could come here. They are fresh (they pulled out of the year-end finals after one match) and have received a bye to the second round. Their games complement each other and have shown at the Olympics that opposition teams don't worry them. As far as Ashwini and Sikki are concerned, they are desperately in need of a result.

Next generation

The question of who after Sindhu will continue to rumble as women's singles has only one entrant from India, the defending champion. In other areas, it's not as threadbare as Lakshya Sen tries to build up his profile.

02

India won two medals (Sindhu and Sai Praneeth) in 2019, that was their best ever showing

2010

Last time India failed to win a single medal at the Worlds

VENUE
Huelva, Spain

DATE
December 12-19

SELECT 1ST RD MATCHES INVOLVING INDIANS

Men: Singles: K Srikanth vs Pablo Abian, Sai Praneeth vs Marl Caljouw, HS Prannoy vs Ka Long Angus Ng.

Doubles*: Manu Attri/ Sumeeth Reddy vs Joel Eipe/ Rasmus Kjaer

Women : Doubles: Ashwini Ponnappa/ Sikki Reddy vs Delphine Delrue/ Lea Palermo

Mixed doubles: MR Arjun/ Maneesha K vs Yeung Ming Nok/ Ng Tsz Yau

*PV Sindhu and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy/ Chirag Shetty directly advance to the second round

MISSING STAR-POWER

A mix of injuries and fears of Covid has resulted in a bit of depleted field. Carolina Marin has still not fully recovered so she won't get to play in front of her home crowd. A back injury has ruled out defending men's champion Kento Momota while Indonesia has pulled out citing the new coronavirus variant, Omicron. All this means the draw could be a bit lopsided as the organisers made the draw more than a week ago.

Lyon's share of wickets in England collapse, Aussie win

AFP @ Brisbane

Australian players walk back after dismissing England during the first Ashes Test at the Gabba in Brisbane on Saturday. They won the match by nine wickets | AP

A RUTHLESS Australia crushed England by nine wickets to win the first Ashes Test in style just after lunch on day four at the Gabba on Saturday.

Needing just 20 runs after bowling England out for 297 in their second innings — with Nathan Lyon taking his 400th Test scalp — Australia cruised to the target in 5.1 overs when Marcus Harris square-drove Mark Wood for a boundary.

The only blemish was the wicket of makeshift opener Alex Carey, who was out for nine, caught behind off the bowling of Ollie Robinson.

Regular opener David Warner was unable to bat due to a rib injury he suffered when he was twice hit by Wood in the first innings.

Australia will carry a 1-0 lead in the five-match series into the second Test, which starts in Adelaide on Thursday.

"A lot of things did go right," said Pat Cummins, making his debut as Australia Test skipper.

"So someone was smiling on me. I'm really proud of everyone, I thought it was a really complete performance."

England will need to regroup after being dismantled with both bat and ball at the Gabba.

After starting the morning in a reasonable position at 220-2, the English lost eight for 77 in the extended first session.

England's batting issues at the Gabba were mirrored in the broadcast compound, where a power failure resulted in the worldwide television feed going down for 45 minutes.

No wickets fell during this period but when the broadcast problems were finally resolved, Lyon struck.

The 34-year-old off-spinner had looked ineffectual on Friday as he searched for his milestone 400th wicket.

But he finally broke through when Malan got an inside edge onto his pad and the ball popped up to Labuschagne at silly mid-off, sparking huge celebrations around the Gabba. Malan made 82.

Brief scores: England 147 and 297 in 103 ovs (Malan 28, Root 89, Lyon 4/91, Green 2/23) lost to Australia 425 and 20/1 in 5.1 ovs

Bengaluru suffer another loss in ISL

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

Devendra Murgaonkar scored the winning goal for Goa on Saturday | ISL

BENGALURU FC's season has gone from bad to worse as they lost 1-2 to FC Goa at the GMC Athletic Stadium in Bambolim on Saturday. Ashique Kuruniyan (16' OG) scored an own goal, helping Goa take lead. Though Cleiton Silva (45') scored the equaliser, Devendra Murgaonkar (70') found the back of the net to help the Gaurs secure an important victory and jump to seventh place with two wins on a trot.

Meanwhile, Bengaluru, who started their season with a win over NorthEast United FC, have failed to win in their last four games, which is a worrying sign as the Blues lie at tenth place with four points. The game also witnessed Bengaluru's Suresh Wangjam and Goa's Jorge Ortiz being given their marching orders.

Goa started the game on the front foot, enjoying some good ball possession in the first 15 minutes. They were a huge threat going forward and their pressure was rewarded with Ashique scoring an own goal, his second of the season. Immediately, a minute later, Bengaluru got a golden opportunity to draw level, but Sunil Chhetri failed to score from close range. However, they finally managed to draw level with Cleiton scoring a wonderful free kick in the 45th minute.

BFC coach Marco Pezzaiuoli decided to bring on Prince Ibarra and Parag Shrivas at the break. And when Ortiz was shown the red card for pushing Wangjam after being hit with a tackle, one thought Bengaluru had a greater chance to win the game against Goa's ten man with more than half an hour of action left on the clock.

But Bengaluru could not take advantage of the situation. In fact, the Gaurs managed to take lead once again with Devendra Murgaonkar scoring from inside the box, which proved to be the winning goal as well.

Chennaiyin's unbeaten run continues

ATK Mohun Bagan were left searching to break their recent poor form as they had to settle for a 1-1 draw against Chennaiyin FC in the Indian Super League at the Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Fatorda on Saturday. Liston Colaco's 18th-minute strike was cancelled by Vladimir Koman (45') right before halftime. Chennaiyin are yet to face defeat as they go third on the table with 8 points. The Mariners continue to be outside the top four with 7 points.

Sterling's penalty gives City 1-0 win over Wolves

AGENCIES @ London

MANCHESTER CITY needed a disputed penalty to secure a 1-0 win over 10-man Wolverhampton on Saturday and ensure it stayed atop the Premier League.

City was awarded a spot kick for handball when Joao Moutinho blocked a cross from Bernardo Silva with his arm outstretched, although Wolves argued that the ball hit his armpit.

Raheem Sterling calmly converted the penalty straight down the middle in the 66th minute for his 100th Premier League goal, which proved enough on a day when City's high-powered attack struggled to make the most of its chances.

Wolves had gone a man down just before the halftime break when Raul Jimenez was first booked for a tackle near the halfway line then inexplicably stretched his leg out to block the resulting free kick to earn a second yellow card straight away.

Meanwhile on Friday night, Brentford moved into the top half after scoring twice in the final six minutes to beat Watford 2-1. Watford were heading six points clear of the relegation zone thanks to an Emmanuel Dennis header midway through first half.

But despite missing talismanic striker Ivan Toney who tested positive for coronavirus, the Bees turned the game around in a dramatic finale against Watford.

Results: Brentford 2-1 Watford, Manchester City 1-0 Wolves, Arsenal 3-0 Southampton, Liverpool 1-0 Aston Villa, Chelsea 3-2 Leeds United.

EXPRESS READ

Jehan produces second win of 2021 season

ABU DHABI: India's Jehan Daruvala put up a strong defence on way to his second race-win of the 2021 Formula 2 season, here on Saturday. The 23-year-old from Mumbai had started the sprint race on reverse grid pole position after qualifying 10th for the feature race.

ACT: Visa issues prevent Pak from taking keepers

KARACHI: The Pakistan men's hockey squad has left for Dhaka to take part in the Asian Champions Trophy without any goalkeeper in their line-up due to visa issues. Asif Bajwa, the secretary of the PHF, said both the goalkeepers in the Pakistan camp, were not issued visas.

PPBA rope in new coach from Korea

BENGALURU: Yong Sung Yoo of Korea has been selected as the foreign head coach to lead the coaching efforts at the Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy (PPBA). Yoo, 47, won the Olympics Silver medal in the men's doubles at the Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004 Games.

ICC still hopeful of cricket at 2028 Oly

NEW DELHI: The ICC is not losing hope of cricket being among "additional sports" to be played at the 2028 Los Angeles Games after the International Olympic Committee (IOC) started the process of identifying the core sports for the grand sporting spectacle.

Civilian touch in Asian Championships medals

FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

INDIAN rowers had a good day at the ongoing Asian Championships in Thailand as they struck a gold and a silver medal on Saturday. The double sculls pair of Arjun Lal Jat, who competed in the 2020 Tokyo Games, and Ravi clinched gold while debutant Parminder Singh won silver in single sculls.

In double sculls, the Indian pair finished first in 6:57.88 minutes ahead of teams from Thailand, China, Uzbekistan, Indonesia and Singapore. The silver won by Parminder on his debut will hold a great importance as he became the first civilian from the country in several years to bag a rowing medal in an international meet. The single sculler clocked 8:07.32 minutes to finish behind his Uzbekistan counterpart in the race.

It is learnt that Parminder didn't get the boat in proportionate to his body weight (above 95kg) and this might have slowed him down as he was leading in the first 500m. "The boat we hired here was for the rower between 75kg to 90kg. As I was overweight, water was getting in the boat because of which it was lying low. I cannot say that forced me to finish second but I can say with certainty that I have learnt a lot in my first international experience," the 20-year-old Parminder told this daily.

Despite the race being his maiden in international circuit, Parminder improved a lot just in a couple of days. He was

last among the five contestants in the preliminary race held on Thursday but better his show to finish on the podium. "After the last place finish in prelims, coaches and fellow rowers gave me valuable suggestions to counter the windy condition. Their advice helped a lot," added Parminder.

His father Inderpal Singh, who is with the Indian contingent in Thailand and India's first Olympian in rowing, said the medal will motivate Parminder to do better and come up with a great show in the 2022 Asian Games. "He is not with the Army but was allowed to use every facility at the Army Rowing Node in Pune. Commanding officer Colonel Sandeep Chahal, national coaches Ismail Baig, Bajrang Lal, Gurdarshan Singh apart from Rajesh Kumar, Karmbir Singh trained him at the camp. The Rowing Federation of India also supported him a lot to make it happen," said Inderpal.

India can expect more medals on Sunday with its rowers scheduled to compete in the five finals on the final day.

VIJAY HAZARE TROPHY

Karnataka beat Mumbai; no stopping in-form Tamil Nadu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

AFTER their loss to Tamil Nadu in the last game, Karnataka have bounced back strongly with an impressive seven wicket win over Mumbai in Thiruvananthapuram on Saturday. **Ravikumar Samarth** (96 n.o) and Pravin Dubey (4/29) starred to help register a second win for Karnataka. Tamil Nadu also continued their red hot form with a third straight win while Ruturaj Gaikwad's third ton on a trot went in vain as Kerala outplayed them in the Vijay Hazare Trophy.

Mumbai openers Yashasvi Jaiswal (61) and Armaan Jaffer(43) provided their team with a decent start against Karnataka. But the problem really started for Mumbai after the duo were gone. From 121/1, they only managed 208/9 with Dubey doing major damage, scalping four wickets.

FILE PICTURE

With the traget well within their reach, Karnataka's Samarth played the senior player's role, scoring decently without taking much risks. He laid the base alongside Rohan Kadam with the oepners adding 95 for the first wicket. Though they lost KV Siddharth and Manish Pandey in quick succession, Karun Nair brought in his experience to score 34-ball 39 to help Karnataka reach the target in the 46th over.

Tamil Nadu secured another comprehensive win over Bengal, winning by a 146-run margin in their Elite Group B encounter at the Sports Hub stadium in Thiruvananthapuram. After being asked to bat first, Tamil Nadu managed 295/8 with their middle order standing firm. Tamil Nadu were in trouble with the score being 55/3 in the 18th over.

Dinesh Karthik (87), Baba Indrajith (64) and Jagatheesan Kousik (50) brought them back into the game while Shahrukh Khan continued his power-hitting with a 12-ball-32 run knock.

Bengal capitulated in their chase and was bowled out for 149. Ragupathy Silambarasan was the pick of the bowlers with four wickets while Sandeep Warrier got two.

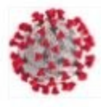
At Rajkot, in an Elite Group D fixture, Ruturaj Gaikwad century went in vain as Maharashtra lost to Kerala. Ruturaj's 124 (off 129 balls) and Rahul Tripathi's 99 helped Maharashtra post 291/8. Kerala lost quick wickets and were left reeling at 35/4 before Sanju (42) and Jalaj Saxena (44) brought them back into the contest. After the two departed, Vishnu Vinod (100 n.o) and Sijomon Joseph (71 n.o) dropped anchor and took the game away from Maharashtra.

Brief scores: Elite Group A: Vidarbha 148 in 42.4 ovs (A Raut 5/36, D Pradhan 3/13) lost to Odisha 152/4 in 42 ovs (S Senapati 71, A Sarangi 52); J&K 208 in 48.3 ovs (R Dayal 116; C Stephen 3/37) lost to Andhra 209/8 in 50 ovs (Ricky 56; A Nabi 3/25); **Elite Group B:** Tamil Nadu 295/8 in 50 ovs (D Karthik 87, B Indrajith 64; Akash Deep 3/64) beat Bengal 149 (R Silambarasan 4/28); Mumbai 208/9 in 50 ovs (Y Jaiswal 61; P Dubey 4/29) lost to Karnataka 211/3 in 45.3 ovs (R Samarth 96, R Kadam 44); **Elite Group C:** Delhi 243 in 49 ovs (L Yadav 57; S Mavi 4/48) lost to UP 244/1 in 43.5 ovs (A Juyal 120 n.o; M Kaushik 89 n.o); Hyderabad 221 in 49 ovs (R Teja 63; P Mankad 4/54) lost to Saurashtra 225/3 in 39 ovs (H Desai 101, Sheldon 65); **Elite Group D:** Maharashtra 291/8 in 50 ovs (R Gaikwad 124, A Bawne 99; MD Nidheesh 5/49) lost to Kerala 294/6 in 48.5 ovs (Vishnu 100 n.o, Sijomon 71 n.o).

LOCAL EXPRESS

Punjab Police clinch hockey Championship

BENGALURU: Dominant Punjab Police defeated a fighting ITBP Jalandhar 7-1 to win the final encounter at the 70th All India Police Hockey Championships which concluded on Saturday in Bengaluru. They scored goals at regular intervals through Hardeep Singh (14'), Karanbir Singh (17', 39'), Kanwarjeet Singh (20'), captain Dupinderdeep Singh (41') and Jagmeet Singh (53') and Balwinder Singh (55'). A consolation goal was scored by Sunil Kijjur (27') for ITBP Jalandhar. In the women's final, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) secured a scintillating 3-1 victory against CRPF Delhi in a match that was played on par with each other.



The Indian Ocean island nation of Mauritius has recorded its first two infections of the Covid-19 Omicron variant, both linked to people returned from South Africa, with a dozen more contact cases feared

Health Minister Kailesh Jagutpal told a press conference on Friday the pair were asymptomatic and had tested negative, adding contract tracing for the two people revealed 12 positive cases with a missing S gene

EXFILE • STUDY

Mosquito continues to be a prolific killer

In a recent report, the WHO said pandemic-related disruptions caused tens of thousands malaria deaths worldwide in 2020. Mosquito menace has hounded humans since times immemorial, but the surge, despite medical advancements, begs a question: what is being done?

REVERSE IN PROGRESS

The WHO report said Covid-19 reversed progress against the mosquito-borne disease, which was already plateauing before the pandemic struck

241 million
Malaria cases in 2020

227 million
Cases in 2019

6,27,000
Malaria deaths in 2020

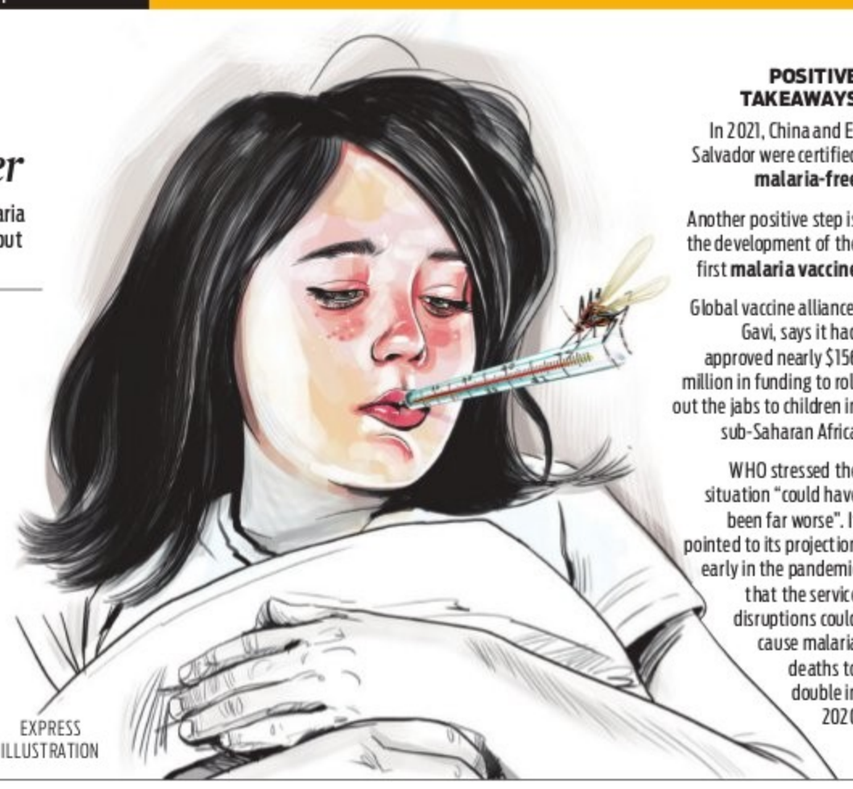
5,58,000
Deaths in 2019

66%
Additional deaths were linked to disruptions

96%
Total deaths in 32 African countries

95%
Cases reported in 32 African countries

80%
Fatalities were children under five



EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

POSITIVE TAKEAWAYS

In 2021, China and El Salvador were certified **malaria-free**

Another positive step is the development of the first **malaria vaccine**

Global vaccine alliance, Gavi, says it had approved nearly $156 million in funding to roll out the jabs to children in sub-Saharan Africa

WHO stressed the situation "could have been far worse". It pointed to its projection early in the pandemic that the service disruptions could cause malaria deaths to double in 2020

DENGUE AND INDIA

15 States badly affected

90 Deaths from January to October

1,00,000 Infections reported

<45,000 Cases in 2020

33% Of global cases reported in India

96MN
Cases reported worldwide every year

- Centre has rushed teams to nine of the worst-affected states to assist them in controlling the outbreak
- Health systems struggling with dengue; bed shortages reported
- Challenge is compounded by patients with both Covid and dengue, leading to misdiagnoses

WHAT MORE CAN BE DONE?

- Results of a trial conducted by Monash University on the efficacy of infecting mosquitoes with bacteria called Wolbachia show the technique reduced the incidence of dengue by 77%
- Wolbachia bacteria competes with other viruses in the mosquito's system, such as dengue, zika, chikungunya or yellow fever. This makes it harder for these viruses to reproduce inside the mosquitoes
- Male mosquitoes infected with the bacterium are released in areas where the disease is endemic. They breed with the wild female mosquitoes
- Over time, the percentage of mosquitoes with Wolbachia increases, meaning fewer mosquitoes which are able to transmit harmful viruses to humans
- The process of infecting, breeding and then releasing mosquitoes in the community has not yet been cleared for use in India. But experimental studies are taking place to study its effects in certain regions
- Work on a new vaccine is currently being undertaken in India and elsewhere. Trials are to commence soon

WORST BUG IN HISTORY OF COMPUTING?

Named Log4Shell, the flaw leaves users, especially Minecraft players, susceptible to online exploitation by hackers

TECH

BOSTON: A critical vulnerability in a widely used software tool — one quickly exploited in the online game Minecraft — is rapidly emerging as a major threat to organizations around the world.

"The internet's on fire right now," said Adam Meyers, senior vice president of intelligence at the cybersecurity firm Crowdstrike. "People are scrambling to patch," he said, "and all kinds of people scrambling to exploit it." He said Friday morning that in the 12 hours since the bug's existence was disclosed that it had been "fully weaponized," meaning malefactors had developed and distributed tools to exploit it.

The flaw may be the worst computer vulnerability discovered in years. It was uncovered in a utility that's ubiquitous in cloud servers and enterprise software used across industry and government. Unless it is fixed, it grants criminals, spies and programming novices alike easy access to internal networks where they can loot valuable data, plant malware, erase crucial information and much more.

"I'd be hard-pressed to think of a company that's not at risk," said Joe Sullivan, chief security officer for Cloudflare, whose online infrastructure protects websites from malicious actors. Untold millions of servers have it installed, and experts said the fallout would not be known for several days.

Amit Yoran, CEO of the cybersecurity firm Tenable, called it "the single biggest,

most critical vulnerability of the last decade" — and possibly the biggest in the history of modern computing.

The vulnerability, dubbed 'Log4Shell,' was rated 10 on a scale of one to 10 the Apache Software Foundation, which oversees development of the software. Anyone with the exploit can obtain full access to an unpatched computer that uses the software,

Experts said the extreme ease with which the vulnerability lets an attacker access a web server — no password required — is what makes it so dangerous. New Zealand's computer emergency response team was among the first to report that the flaw was being "actively exploited in the wild" just hours after it was publicly reported Thursday and a patch released.

The vulnerability, located in open-source Apache software used to run websites and other web services, was reported to the foundation on Nov. 24 by the Chinese tech giant Alibaba, it said. It took two weeks to develop and release a fix.

But patching systems around the world could be a complicated task. While most organizations and cloud providers such as Amazon should be able to update their web servers easily, the same Apache software is also often embedded in third-party programs, which often can only be updated by their owners.

Yoran, of Tenable, said organizations need to presume they've been compromised and act quickly.

The first obvious signs of the flaw's exploitation appeared in Minecraft, an online game hugely popular with kids and owned by Microsoft. Meyers and security expert Marcus Hutchins said Minecraft users were already using it to execute programs on the computers of other users by pasting a short message in a chat box.

Microsoft said it had issued a software update for Minecraft users. "Customers who apply the fix are protected," it said.

FACT OF THE MATTER

Oldest ink pen discovered

HISTORY

The British Isles' oldest-known ink pen has been found during excavations of a stone fort in Clare. Archaeologist Michelle Comber of the National University of Ireland, Galway unearthed the 1,000-year-old writing implement from the Caherconnell Cashel. This 140-foot-wide ringfort was built in the late 10th century and would have been home to wealthy — and, it seems, literate — local rulers until the early 1600s. Other artefacts from the site have shown that the occupants engaged in varied pursuits, from fine craftworking and metalwork to trade, games and music.Dr Comber believes that the individual who used the Caherconnell pen likely did so in order to record more mundane things like family lineages and trades.

Nazi artefacts to be returned

HISTORY

A Swiss museum said on Friday it would give up almost 40 works of art after a years-long investigation concluded they were either stolen by the Nazis or of doubtful origin. But the Museum of Fine Arts Bern said almost 1,100 other works from the same trove would be retained despite their provenance remaining unproven.German-Austrian collector Cornelius Gurlitt died in 2014 and left more than 1,600 works to the museum, including paintings by Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Paul Cezanne, Max Beckmann, Eugene Delacroix and Edvard Munch. Gurlitt's father was one of four art dealers tasked by the Nazis with selling art stolen from Jews or confiscated as "degenerate". The museum accepted the collection in November 2014.

Not all dinosaurs lumbered: Study

PALEONTOLOGY

NEW YORK: Not all two-legged dinosaurs were like the lumbering Tyrannosaurus rex. An analysis of dinosaur tracks from 120 million years ago unearthed in Spain adds to growing evidence that these meat-eating prehistoric beasts belonging to the same group as T.rex could be highly agile.

The findings, published Thursday in Scientific Reports, reveal one of the fastest known sets of fossilized dinosaur footprints. These tracks join the ranks of other speedy sets found in Utah and Texas, one of which shows dinosaurs running at speeds over 30 mph.

The Spanish footprints showed speeds of nearly 28 mph. To calculate the running speed, scientists measured the length of the footprint and took into account the dinosaur's hip height and stride length — the distance between two consecutive footprints of the same foot.

All of the fastest known sets of prints come from a family of dinosaurs called theropods. These carnivorous dinosaurs stood on two legs and could not fly, like the famed velociraptor.

The animals that created the most recent impressions were probably 5 to 6 1/2 feet tall and 13 to 16 feet long from mouth to tail, the researchers estimated. A host of scientists think there may be other faster dinosaurs, but the tracks of theropods have been easier to track down.

"Behavior is something very difficult to study in dinosaurs," said lead author Pablo Navarro-Lorbés of the University of La Rioja. "These kind of findings are very important, I think, for improving that kind of knowledge."

Scientists typically predict dinosaur behavior through computer modeling of the creatures' movement. Physical examination of fossilized footprints confirm the results.

These are "clearly active, agile animals," said Smithsonian paleontologist Hans Sues, who had no role in the study.

BALLOONING IMAGE

Lighthouse Immersive's 92-foot-tall Vincent van Gogh hot air balloon floats on Flagstaff Hill on Friday in Pittsburgh in the US. The balloon was brought to the city to promote the Immersive Van Gogh Pittsburgh exhibit on the North Side | AP

mRNA based HIV vax shows promise

MEDICINE

WASHINGTON: An experimental HIV vaccine based on mRNA has shown promise in experiments in mice and monkeys, according to a study published in Nature Medicine.

The research carried out by scientists at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Moderna and other institutions, demonstrated that the vaccine was safe and prompted desired antibody and cellular immune responses against an HIV-like virus.

Rhesus macaques that received a priming shot followed by multiple boosters had a 79 percent lower per-exposure risk of infection by simian-human immunodeficiency virus (SHIV) compared to unvaccinated animals.

"Despite nearly four decades of effort by the global research community, an effective vaccine to prevent HIV remains an elusive goal," said NIAID director and co-author Anthony Fauci, in a statement.

Work cut out for James Webb

SPACE

One of the major missions of the new James Webb telescope is to look for conditions that could sustain life outside our solar system, where scientists have only recently been able to look for it. The first exoplanet observed – 51 Pegasi b -- was discovered in 1995 and since then nearly 5,000 others have been noted, from gas giants similar to rocky planets like Earth. Some are a habitable distance from their suns, in a range fancifully named the Goldilocks Zone. But beyond being neither too close, nor too far from the stars they orbit, little is known about these planets. Astrophysicists hope the Webb telescope will help fill in some of these gaps. Equipped with a new piece of technology called the Mid-Infrared Instrument, it will use a camera and a spectrograph to see light in the mid-infrared region of the electromagnetic spectrum, invisible to the human eye. "It will revolutionise how we see planets' atmospheres," said Pierre-Oliver Lagage of the French space agency who worked on MIRI with a US and European team.

THE GREAT RESIGNATION

US firms flash for-hire sign in vain as millions quit

RESEARCH

WASHINGTON: American workers are quitting their jobs by the millions every month taking advantage of new opportunities created by the pandemic recovery, and creating an unprecedented labor shortage for companies. In October, 4.2 million Americans resigned, after 4.4 million in September and 4.3 million in August, according to data from the Labor Department.

Meanwhile, new applications for unemployment benefits last week fell to just 184,000, the lowest level since September 1969, the Labor Department said Thursday.

There are 11 million job openings, and the number of vacancies is peaking as demand picks up in bars, hotels, restaurants and other service industries.

The economy remains about four million jobs short of the pre-pandemic level, and even though job gains have averaged 555,000 a month this year, hiring, especially unskilled staff willing to work in person, has become a headache for many employers.

"We've never had a gap like that where there's just so many more openings and there are unemployed workers," said Curtis Dubay, economist at the US Chamber of Commerce.

The pandemic is changing attitudes to work, he told AFP.

"Jobs that are traditionally

less pleasant and with less skills are having a harder time retaining workers. Workers are just not putting up with it anymore." Since April, a record number of workers, the overwhelming majority in low-skilled jobs in the service sector, have quit, no longer concerned that they will struggle to find a new position.

The hashtag #GreatResignation is trending on Twitter, with one post offering this explanation: "We're leaving jobs because we have nothing to lose."

The author called on companies to show "more human kindness and compassion," and step up their offers on remote work, health care and retirement savings. "Bring your best to the table and maybe we will too." Erik Lundh, economist at The Conference Board research center, said the current environment definitely gives workers "more bargaining power, in terms of negotiating for benefits and wages."

There are signs employers are raising pay and improving benefits to try to attract workers.

The share of job offers offering signing bonuses in addition to the base salary has more than doubled since March 2020 at the start of the pandemic and October 2021, according to a study by The Conference Board published on Wednesday.

And the prevalence of bonuses is more marked for manual work that does not require a university degree and cannot offer telework, as well as for jobs in industries facing the greatest labor shortages, notably education and healthcare.

The trend is expected to continue next year. "Most companies are looking at almost a four percent jump in wages next year," Lundh said.

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